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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021

$2

Blackhawks, Red Wings face rebuilding years

Sports, B1

LOVING LIFE DOWN ON THE FARM

Food, B6

More now eligible for vaccine

BC Health Dept. says all Phase 1A folks now can sign up

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — The Berrien County Health Department announced Tuesday that the next phase of vaccinations can now begin, clearing the way for a host of newly eligible residents to sign up.

Anyone in Phase 1A is now eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine, the department said. Since the department received its first shipment of vaccine last week, officials say more than 300 initial doses went out to staff and other individuals in priority groups 1 and 2 of Phase 1A. This includes emergency medical personnel, some long-term care residents and long-term care facility workers, according to a news release.

In total as of Monday, according to state figures, about 1,000 Berrien County residents had been vaccinated either by Lakeland, the county health department or as part of the pharmacy program to vaccinate long-term care facility residents. According to the state, as of Tuesday, 6,200 doses have so far been sent to Berrien County.

Inside

■ Michigan ranks low in administering COVID-19 vaccines

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Those now newly eligible to get vaccinated include:

■ Physicians, nurses, or other health care providers who may work with patients, such as: physical therapists, respiratory therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, social workers, discharge planners, patient care associates, phlebotomists, blood bank technicians, radiology technicians, or any other support staff who interfaces with patients;

■ Students (medical/nursing/physician assistant/other clinical students), residents

See **VACCINE**, page A6

Cook Plant-area sirens will sound no more

New warning system linked to electronic devices

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The decades-old sound of emergency sirens being tested the first Saturday of each month in a 10-mile radius around the Cook Nuclear Plant is now history.

The last test of the sirens, which were first installed in 1982, was on Jan. 2.

Instead, most residents will now receive the emergency warnings through their cell phones or some other electronic means, said Berrien County Sheriff's Capt. Rockey Adams, commanding officer of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division.

The new system will be tested at 3 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, starting on Feb. 5.

Detailed information about the new Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) can be found in the 2021 Cook Nuclear Plant calendar, which is mailed to residents within the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone.

"There is a lot of great information in that calendar that is very much new," Adams said. "We don't want people to receive that calendar and think it's the same old information and file it in a drawer without looking at it."

A link to the 2021 calendar can be found by the end of this week at www.cookinfo.com/emergencyplan.aspx. Cook Communication Manager Bill Downey said it is taking longer than usual to put in all of the new information, so the link currently goes to the old calendar.

Alerts will also be sent out through the county's B-WARN! system, which includes landlines, emails and pagers, in addition to cell phones. Links to the pages on the Berrien County website explaining the two warning systems can be found on the county's Facebook page at Berrien County Michigan-Government.

See **SIRENS**, page A6

Don Campbell / HP staff

The Cook Plant's monthly emergency siren tests will soon be replaced with a new emergency alert system linked to electronic devices. The tests have been an area fixture since 1982.

Don Campbell / HP staff

St. Joseph Township is developing plans for sidewalks along Napier Avenue between Colfax Avenue and Miami Street. The corridor has long been dangerous for pedestrians. Just recently the lanes were redrawn, allowing for shoulders along the busy road.

Planning underway for Napier Avenue sidewalks

Officials hope SJ Twp. portion of project is done by end of next year

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — If all goes as planned, pedestrians will have the safety and convenience of sidewalks on Napier Avenue in St. Joseph Township by the end of next year.

The long-awaited sidewalks between Miami Street and Colfax Avenue are a step closer to reality after the St. Joseph Township Board this week chose a design option for the project, formally known as the Napier Avenue Non-Motorized Path Project.

The plan chosen from three options is the most expensive, but officials believe it will best serve the public for years to come.

The project still requires the acquisition of right-of-ways and easements, with 72 properties involved.

The option the board chose is expected to cost $791,195, with $393,858 of that to be funded by a Michigan Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program federal grant, and 397,337 to be paid by the township. Township Manager Denise Cook said that money will be budgeted for 2022, to be paid at the time of the project's completion.

Wightman is the engineering firm for the project. During a workshop meeting it outlined three design options. Two of the options, including the one the board chose, call for six-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of Napier Avenue.

The less expensive choice, estimated at $693,359, would have placed the sidewalk against the curbs rather than four feet from the curbs. Officials noted that in the winter, plowed snow would pile up on the sidewalks.

Option three, the cheapest, would have put a 10-foot wide motorized path on just the north side of Napier. Estimated cost for that option was $447,314. It would have required far fewer property easements, but would have cut deeper into homeowners' yards.

Township officials quickly dismissed that option over concerns about people on the south side of Napier crossing the busy street to use the sidewalk.

"That would bother me, having people cross Napier," said Trustee Tom Milnikel.

Trustee Melissa Hahn agreed, saying the project needs to be done right.

"Our residents prefer both sides. This truly is a legacy," she said.

Besides needing easements from property owners along Napier, the project will require the relocation of utility poles and mailboxes.

"It will be a jigsaw puzzle to put together," said Township Supervisor Roger Seely. "We have a year and a half to do it, and it will probably take all of that."

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Good Fellow Fund surges well past expectations

The Good Fellow Fund helps local families in need around the holidays, but it couldn't happen without generous donors in our community.

Those donors came through big time in 2020, sending in $42,330. This was, impressively, more than $7,000 above the set goal of $35,000. The 2020 fund drive officially ended on Dec. 31.

The fund, which dates back more than 100 years, is administered by The Herald-Palladium, which covers all administrative costs. All donations go to folks in need.

The newspaper canceled this year's Newsie sale – always the biggest fund-raising day of the Good Fellow Fund drive – due to the pandemic. This meant that reaching the goal might prove difficult.

Local donors, however, proved there was no reason to fear. In the end the amount collected this year is more than $1,000 above the 2019 total.

"2019 was one of the best years we have ever had, and for us to surpass that amount without our annual Newsie sale and during a pandemic speaks volumes of our community and its commitment to helping others," said HP Publisher David Holgate. "I cannot properly thank those who gave, but please know I am gratified."

Thanks also go to the services club members who kept collecting money even though they couldn't sell Newsies this year. Those clubs include the Southwest Michigan Exchange Club,

See **GOOD FELLOW**, page A6

GOOD FELLOW FUND

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 35 Low 26

6 50645 49085 0

Michigan ranks low in administering COVID-19 vaccines

By KRISTEN JORDAN SHAMUS and DAVE BOUCHER
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

Michigan ranks among the worst in the nation for getting coronavirus vaccines into the arms of health care workers, first responders and others who fall into the top priority for immunizations, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Only six other states – Arizona, Kansas, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia – have vaccinated fewer people per capita, CDC data released Monday show.

While Michigan officials argue they are doing what they can to encourage a more rapid administration of vaccinations, the state is facing a problem: Some front-line workers are declining to be vaccinated.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and other state leaders have agreed to be publicly vaccinated. Although Whitmer has not received her first dose yet, the idea is many residents will feel more comfortable getting vaccinated if they see her and other leaders receiving the vaccine.

It remains to be seen if state guidelines, regulations or plans will spur more people to agree to the injections.

Michigan has received 379,325 doses of Pfizer's and Moderna's coronavirus vaccines, but only one-third of those vaccine doses have been administered, according to state health department data.

That means two-thirds – more than 250,000 doses – remain in freezers, thus far unused in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic that has killed 12,678 Michiganders and infected more than half a million.

State health officials told the Free Press Tuesday that every state is grappling with difficulties in the roll-out of these vaccines, but did not pinpoint specifically why Michigan has fared worse than others.

"Launching mass vaccinations over the December holiday season created delays with some individuals intentionally delaying vaccines for themselves until after the holidays and clinics not being operational due to the holidays," said Bob Wheaton, a spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. "Although it was appropriate to start vaccinations as soon as the vaccine was available, it has caused roll out to be slower."

At Spectrum Health, a western Michigan hospital system that employs 31,000 workers across 14 hospitals, about 74 percent of employees have opted in to get a coronavirus vaccine, said COO Brian Brasser. But of the roughly 34,000 vaccines Spectrum Health has received so far from Pfizer and Moderna, it had administered about one-third, 11,400, as of Monday. The hope is to complete 4,000 immunizations this week.

"We've also seen an uptick in folks registering after the holidays. We know anecdotally ... that folks were waiting for the holidays to come and go before they schedule their appointments," Brasser said.

Other obstacles have been in distribution, said Bobby Leddy, deputy press secretary for Whitmer.

"The federal government has fallen far short of their goal to vaccinate 20 million Americans by the end of 2020," Leddy said.

"When we have the appropriate amount of vaccines, we will be able to quickly expand vaccine administration to additional phases of the general public as we look to reach our goal of at least 70 percent of the state's adult population – 5.4 million people – within a year."

But hitting that target could take longer.

At the current pace of 42,796 immunizations a week, just 2.25 million Michiganders – about half the goal – will be vaccinated by the start of 2022.

To speed up the process, the state health officials say they are working with hospitals and local health departments, offering to help with operational challenges and boosting staffing.

Any organization in Michigan that receives COVID-19 vaccines – whether it's a hospital, local health department or pharmacy – has been told it must "aim to administer 90 percent of it within seven days of receipt," Wheaton said.

"We have also clarified the broad categories of health care workers that should be getting vaccinated, as well as the expectation that hospitals support vaccination of phase 1A workers that may not be their own employees. We will continue to evaluate our overall strategy to increase vaccination numbers in Michigan," Wheaton said.

Still, if a first responder or health care worker doesn't show up for a vaccine appointment or more doses of the vaccine are thawed than initially intended, some have been given to people who don't fall into the phase 1A top priority group, he said.

"We would prefer the vaccine be used instead of wasting it, even if that means someone in another priority group receives the vaccine," Wheaton said, adding that the state health department is not collecting data on how often that has happened.

For Michigan hospitals and health care systems, it's been a struggle, said John Karasinski, a spokesperson for the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, which represents all 133 community hospitals in the state.

Planning and scheduling employee vaccinations while finding enough workers to give the immunizations is a real challenge, as is coming up with storage solutions for the vaccines, which have to be frozen.

But, he said, "the primary barrier to faster vaccination has been the lack of consistent and timely information about how much vaccine hospitals in Michigan will receive from the federal government.

"With little advanced notice on quantity and a specific arrival date, it's very difficult to plan day-long employee vaccine clinics and to know what other community health care providers the hospitals should try to vaccinate. When doses don't arrive on the day expected, thousands of appointments can be delayed or cancelled. These vaccination clinics require tremendous planning, staffing, monitoring of vaccine recipients and more."

Vaccine hesitancy is another concern.

About 600 first responders, emergency medical personnel and other health care workers who were offered vaccines in Wayne County declined to be immunized, said Michael McElrath, a spokesperson for the county health department.

As of Monday, Wayne County had received 1,950 doses of the Pfizer vaccine, and administered 1,391.

Kent County reported a similar problem.

"We could have used a few more arms so far," said Steve Kelso, a spokesperson for the Kent County Health Department. "We are seeing a lower than anticipated uptake. Perhaps the holidays influenced some people to wait. We have had a number of our staff tell us that they did not want to 'cut in line' by taking the vaccine of someone who they perceived to be more at risk. These are theories based upon what staff has shared with us."

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
KH-AS-5C-5D-5H
Midday Daily 3
6-2-2
Midday Daily 4
2-8-6-5
Daily 3
0-2-6
Daily 4
4-8-9-8
Fantasy 5
10-17-21-22-37
Keno
01-02-04-05-09-11-16-25-29-30-43-44-57-62-63-64-65-68-72-73-76-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$432 million
Powerball jackpot
$410 million

Monday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
01-03-11-15-16
Estimated jackpot
$110,000
Cash4Life
03-24-43-47-51, Cash Ball: 3
Quick Draw Midday
01-09-11-14-16-34-36-37-39-40-41-43-44-49-52-54-56-74-77-80, BE: 40
Daily Three-Midday
1-7-6, SB: 1
Daily Three-Evening
8-1-9, SB: 1
Daily Four-Midday
9-9-5-2, SB: 1
Daily Four-Evening
6-3-5-1, SB: 1
Quick Draw Evening
04-08-14-22-25-26-38-44-47-48-54-60-61-63-64-66-69-70-73-79, BE: 8

Illinois
Lotto
05-35-40-44-45-49, Extra Shot: 18
Estimated jackpot
$3.2 million
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
04-11-22-23-33
Pick Three-Midday
1-2-4, Fireball: 3
Pick Three-Evening
7-4-6, Fireball: 7
Pick Four-Midday
7-8-7-4, Fireball: 6
Pick Four-Evening
3-3-7-0, Fireball: 6
Lucky Day Lotto
12-16-26-37-38
Estimated jackpot
$700,000

– The Associated Press

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localnews@TheHP.com

Features
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focus@TheHP.com

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Ext. 295
letters@TheHP.com

Sports
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sports@TheHP.com

Obituaries
Ext. 295, or 429-2295
obits@TheHP.com

Photo
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David Holgate Publisher
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Lincoln Twp. library brings back adult reading program

Patrons asked to 'Chill Out and Read'

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

STEVENSVILLE — The Lincoln Township Public Library kicked off its winter reading program for adults this week in an effort to keep patrons reading in the new year.

Entering its 10th year, the program is available to library patrons who are 18 years and older. It began Monday and continues through Feb. 27.

Adult services librarian Brian Johnston said it's similar to the library's summer reading program, only participants have to complete five out of 10 available options.

Participants can read a book that is considered fiction, mystery, adult non-fiction, read an uncatalogued paperback book, or listen to an audio book, read two magazines, listen to three CDs, watch two DVDs, read three children's books or attend an adult services program.

"We usually get about 60 to 70 a year, roughly," Johnston said, regarding the winter program. "The reason I think it's an important program is I want people to see other aspects of the library and see what else we have to offer. There are lots of things people can check out and do here."

The theme this year is "Chill Out and Read."

Johnston said every participant who finishes the winter program gets Hershey's chocolate and has their names entered into a drawing for grand prizes that include Amazon gift cards.

"It's kind of a slow time as the library is always busier during the summer," Johnston said. "This program encourages people to come in even when the weather is bad. We just hope that the people sign up and see their library as much as possible during these winter months."

Residents interested in the program can either visit the website at www.lincolnlib.org, or go to the library and stop at the circulation desk to sign up in person.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

IN BRIEF

Berrien adds 9 COVID deaths Tuesday

Nine additional COVID-19 deaths were recorded in Berrien County on Tuesday.

All of the deaths were people over the age of 60, according to the Berrien County Health Department's COVID data dashboard.

This brings the county's pandemic death toll to 181.

Berrien County recorded 48 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, sticking with the seven-day average for new cases a day.

In addition, the county recorded 82 additional recoveries.

With deaths and recoveries, the county is down to about 1,762 active cases. That's compared to 2,199 active cases last Tuesday.

COVID hospitalizations at Spectrum Health Lakeland were at 43 as of Tuesday morning. That's down from 52 last Tuesday.

Van Buren County recorded one additional COVID-19 death on Tuesday, bringing the county's death toll to 74. Cass County added two deaths, bringing its death toll to 46.

Van Buren County recorded 15 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, while Cass recorded 29.

BH planners OK amended adult-use marijuana ordinance

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor planning commissioners Tuesday approved a zoning ordinance stipulating where adult-use marijuana businesses will be allowed in the city.

Planning commissioners amended the distance the marijuana businesses have to be from schools, to 500 feet. This mirrors the adult-use marijuana ordinance approved by city commissioners in July 2020. The zoning ordinance originally required 1,000 feet.

The zoning ordinance will now go before city commissioners. Their next meeting, at 7 p.m. Jan. 19, was moved to a Tuesday due to the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Before Tuesday's public hearing on the zoning ordinance, city Commissioner MaryAlice Adams said she's glad planning commissioners will consider the zoning ordinance.

"I'm hoping that today is going to end the stagnation of us moving forward since the people of Michigan spoke," said Adams, who is not on the planning commission.

Several city commissioners, including Adams, have complained over the years that it has taken too long for city staff to put together the information needed so the medical marijuana licenses and now, adult-use licenses, could be considered.

"I hope that whatever is said here does not hold up the process any longer when we have other communities right before our eyes growing as we are sinking further and further behind," Adams said.

Voters approved the state's medical marijuana law in 2008 and the adult-use marijuana law in 2018.

City commissioners approved a medical marijuana ordinance December 2017, but it took several more months for planning commissioners to approve a zoning ordinance stating where medical marijuana facilities could be located.

It wasn't until July 2019 that the first medical marijuana facility was approved in the city – NOBO Michigan. The business broke ground at its facility later that month at 900 Alreco Road, where a former aluminum smelting company once stood.

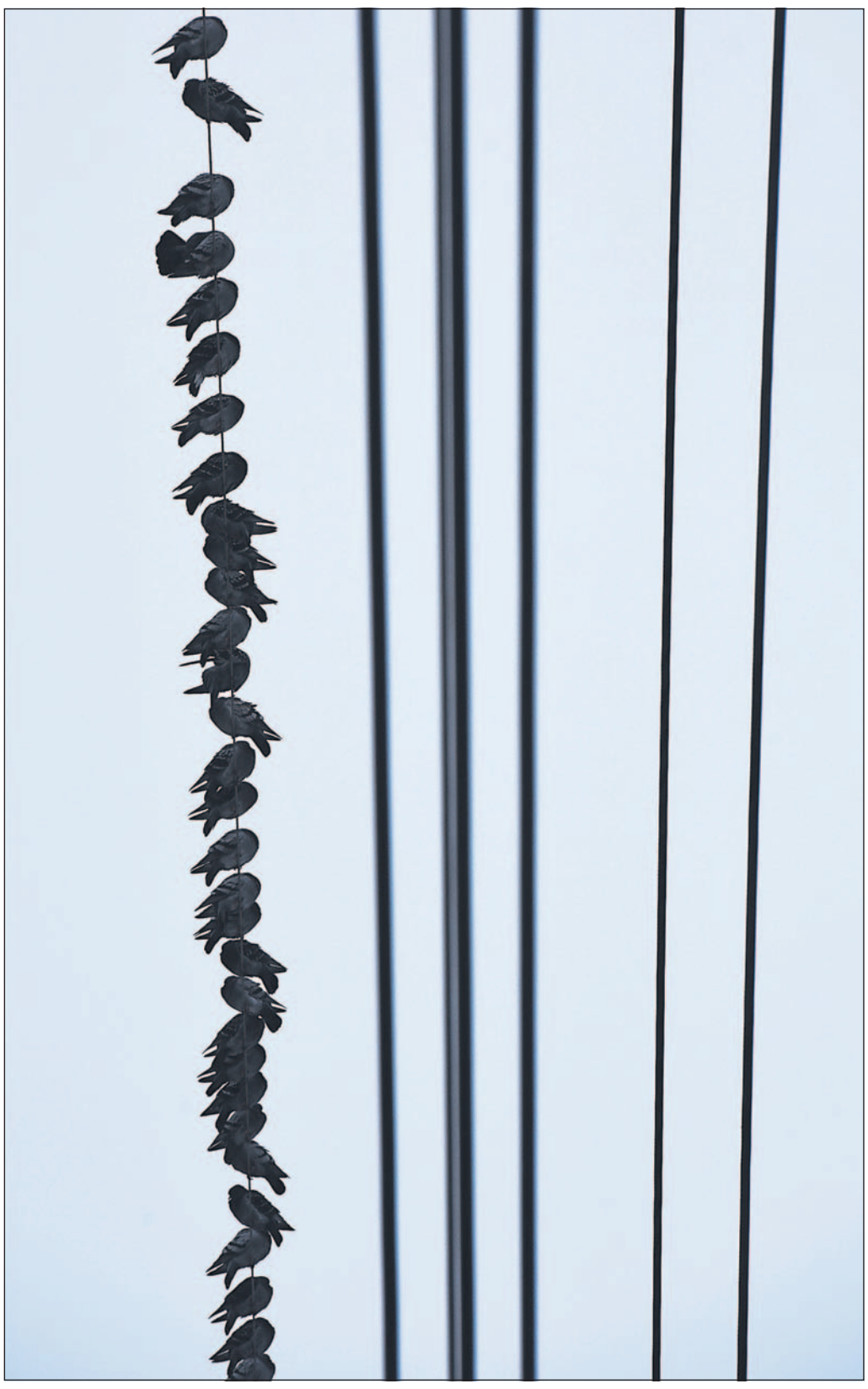
City commissioners approved the city's adult-use ordinance in July 2020. In August, Commissioner Jerry Edwards asked planners why they weren't working faster to approve a zoning ordinance to go with it.

He pointed out that several Southwest Michigan cities already have recreational marijuana businesses open, including in Niles, South Haven and Bangor.

"I'm trying to understand why does it take us so long to get it started when we say that we need income," he said. "... I don't think it's that difficult for us to come up with an ordinance. It can't be if everybody is beating us."

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

STICKING TOGETHER



Don Campbell / HP staff

Dozens of birds gather along wires under an overcast sky in St. Joseph this week.

South Haven native named new assistant city manager

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — A young man who grew up in South Haven will be returning to town as the new assistant city manager.

Griffin Graham has accepted the position and will begin his new duties on Jan. 28, according to City Manager Kate Hosier.

GRAHAM

Graham currently serves as Saugatuck Township manager, where he oversees budgeting, project management and staffing.

During his 1 ½ year tenure there, Graham implemented new personnel, financial and administrative policies, and initiated long-term planning efforts and public improvement projects. Prior to being hired as manager of Saugatuck Township, he worked for Ottawa County and Meridian Township, and is a member of the International City/County Management Association and the Michigan Municipal Executives.

"Griffin's experiences at Saugatuck Township closely mirror the priorities and challenges that he will be tackling here at the city, such as high water levels and erosion, water and wastewater issues, and capital improvement plans," Hosier said. "We are excited to have him join our team and we know that he will serve our residents well."

Graham graduated from South Haven High School and continued his education at Michigan State University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in urban and regional planning and a bachelor of science degree in environmental science and management. Graham also holds a master of public affairs degree with concentrations in public management and local government management from Indiana University.

Whitmer vetoes bill to let 1-time DUI offenders clear record

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer refused to sign a bill that would have let an estimated 200,000 one-time drunken drivers ask a judge to set aside their conviction, despite the measure's broad bipartisan support in the Michigan Legislature.

The Democrat took no action on the expungement legislation Monday, allowing it to die when a 14-day review period expired. Her office gave no reason why.

The legislation had passed the Senate 32-5 and the House 96-8. A key Republican who helped guide the bill through the GOP-led Legislature expressed outrage.

"I am incredulous," said Rep. Graham Filler, of DeWitt, who chaired the House Judiciary Committee last term. He said the governor's pocket veto came "out of nowhere." The bill was supported by top officials including Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and state Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget McCormack – both Democrats – and former House Speaker Lee Chatfield, a Republican.

Michigan currently does not allow someone to petition a court to set aside a conviction for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. The bill would have lifted that prohibition for a first-time offender except if he or she caused another person's death or serious impairment of a bodily function.

"Everybody knows an individual who screwed up, who had a couple beers, drove home, got popped at that 0.08 (blood alcohol level), spent the night in jail, paid the price," Filler said. "It's really bad. They've learned their lesson. ... This gives them the chance to clean up their public record and move on. How does the governor explain the veto for those people?"

He noted that in October, Whitmer signed sweeping bipartisan "clean slate" legislation to automatically set aside certain criminal records after a number of years and to ease the application process for those convicted of marijuana offenses. She signed similar bills related to juvenile offenders on Monday.

The latest measure would not have provided for automatic expungement of DUI convictions. A judge would have reviewed any request and made a decision.

The sponsor, Republican Sen. Ed McBroom of Vulcan, called the veto "quite disappointing and surprising." He estimated that more than 200,000 people could have benefited – those who have completed their sentence and who have one offense only.

In Michigan, an expungement – or set aside – clears the public record of a conviction so it does not appear in a background check. Law enforcement still keeps a non-public record, but people no longer have to disclose their criminal past on job applications or other forms.

People with a DUI on their record can be greatly hampered in their careers, McBroom said, especially those who need a commercial driver's license.

"This one incident in their life, sometimes 30 years ago, is still keeping them down. To not allow judges to at least have the discretion ... just seems really unfair," he said, when an expungement is possible for crimes such as assault and theft.

There were about 30,000 arrests for operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs in 2019, according to the state police.

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Trump's moral corruption infects GOP

"Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

— Lord Acton

The remarkable thing about this last, grotesque chapter of Donald Trump's presidency is how much he has proved Acton both wrong and right.

Jonah Goldberg

Few axioms are more popular among earnest pundits and politicians than Lord Acton's line about power, even though the point of the letter in which the quote appeared focused on the institutions and people who protect the wielders of power. He decried those who exempted the powerful from the rules that bind the rest of us. "There is no worse heresy than that the office sanctifies the holder of it," Acton wrote.

In one sense Trump proved Acton wrong. Power didn't corrupt Trump. It merely gave his corruption room to run, like handing an inveterate drunk driver a bottle of Jack Daniels and a monster truck to play with.

The phone call to the president of Ukraine that got him impeached was simply Trump being Trump only on a global scale instead of in the more fetid backwaters of real estate, entertainment and general hucksterism where he made his name. And the sore loser – already the greatest sore loser in American history – who called Georgia election officials on Saturday is the same man we saw descend the escalator five years ago.

"I do whine," Trump said on CNN in August 2015, "because I want to win and I'm not happy about not winning and I am a whiner and I keep whining and whining until I win." His postelection whining spree is a testament to his consistency.

So while power didn't corrupt Trump, Trump has vindicated Acton's larger point about how power invites corruption in others. Corruption means more than bribery and self-aggrandizement; it means rot, decay, the erosion of standards and principles and their replacement with baser motives.

And in this sense, Trump's corruption has been infectious. Conservatives who once prided themselves on old-fashioned notions of good character now think whining and deceit are manly while graciousness and honesty are for "cucks."

Worse, conservatives, who not long ago all but defined conservatism as fidelity to the Constitution, now think constitutionalism is whatever allows a losing president to steal an election.

I've no doubt some fraction of the politicians supporting Trump actually believe the lies and conspiracy theories he has peddled. Some probably even think their constitutional schemes are legitimate: Of course, the Founding Fathers intended for the vice president to be able to unilaterally void the election results and install the loser!

But sincere belief in transparent lies is even more a symptom of the Trumpian rot. Five years ago, no one who knew, say, Sens. Ron Johnson, Josh Hawley or even Ted Cruz would believe they'd go along with such assaults on the Constitution, democracy or common sense. Such is the extent of the corruption, it is somehow more reassuring to think they're simply lying. Lies are a concession that the truth matters.

But truth is no longer defined by the factual. Trump has set the truth free to mean whatever delivers a win.

This rot extends far outside of Washington. How could it not, for the politicians are merely responding to market incentives, the way weather vanes respond to the wind (even if they helped manufacture the very gales they are responding too)? The consumers – i.e. the voters, viewers, donors and subscribers – want the lies.

A whole industry has grown up around the idea that what is good for Trump – or simply what Trump thinks is good for him – is the premise and conclusion of every argument. From pastors and "constitutional scholars" to journalists and conservative activists, all the conservative yardsticks – of good character, decency, statesmanship, constitutionalism – have been shaved down and bent to fit the crooked timber of the man.

These are the people Trump surrounds himself with. Some were already corrupt, which is why they fluttered, moth-like to his flame in the first place. But others were not always this way. The American right is now littered with Actonian cautionary tales, people trading their reputations for one last bit of relevance.

No wonder Trump's consternation with the uncorrupted Georgia officials who would not ratify his lies. He pleaded for investigators who "want to find" the evidence he needs, because for Trump and his apologists the truth is defined by his wants and needs.

He won't stop whining until he gets what he wants, which means he'll be whining for the rest of his life, and some will call it leadership.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

LETTERS

Thanks for the personal essays

Editor,

I thoroughly enjoyed reading all the essays from your writers and editors (Jan. 31) – thank you for publishing them.

Thank you, also, for providing an excellent daily paper to the people in this area; onward and upward in 2021!

Gretta Van Bree
Lincoln Township

What's happened to the Republican Party?

Editor,

Someone might ask: What happened to the party of Lincoln, the so-called GOP? The apparent association with hard-right para-military groups and conspiracy theorists may be part of the answer. Words or phrases like "storm," "takeover," "stand down and stand by" have meaning to some.

There are survivors like Mitt Romney and John Kasich, who in my view would have been two of the best candidates for president in 2016 or 2020.

Those who signed on to the Texas lawsuit, an attempt to use the courts to nullify the election in certain states where a majority voted for Biden, may be in violation of Section 3 of the 14th Amendment (insurrection) to the U. S. Constitution.

The former party of Lincoln has trashed two nuclear treaties signed by Ronald Reagan, the National Environmental Policy Act and other important environmental laws signed by Richard Nixon, trashed relationships with our allies, trashed science, honesty, congressional oversight, subpoenas, due process and just about everything else.

The pardons and commutations of sentences, many for convicted felons from the Russia investigation, show complete disregard for the law.

The latest Russian hack seems to be in concert with those trying to tear down our government.

The recent Middle East flyover of American "B-52" bombers and the load they carry should give everyone pause.

Brad Anderson
Bridgman

A 2005 election challenge was bad. 2021 is much worse

In January 2005, Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., objected to counting Ohio's electoral votes for President George W. Bush.

Ramesh Ponnuru

It made Page A19 of The New York Times. It didn't haunt her for the rest of her career. I didn't remember her involvement myself, until the current Republican challenge to Joe Biden's electoral victory brought it back into the news.

That challenge has drawn a ferocious reaction. The Republicans behind it are being accused of subverting our form of government and lacking patriotism. They're asking why they are getting so much more heat. Josh Hawley, the Missouri Republican who was the first senator to say he would object to the certification of Biden's election, made a point of citing Boxer and other Democrats who acted similarly after Republicans won the presidency. A lot of Republicans say they're being treated more harshly because of media bias. That's part of the explanation.

But there are other reasons the Republican campaign against 2020's electoral result is a bigger story, and a more alarming one, than previous Democratic election protests.

Texas Republican Ted Cruz, in his letter with 10 other Republican senators explaining why they will vote against certifying the election results, put his finger on the key difference: This time the belief that the election was stolen is widespread. They cite a poll that found that 39 percent of the country – and 67 percent of Republicans – agree that "the election was rigged." After the 2004 election, by contrast, two-thirds of Democrats accepted that the election was conducted fairly.

The senators say that there are so many allegations of fraud and irregularities in voting, and so many people are concerned about them, that the election should not be certified.

The allegations are, however, nonsense. None of them have withstood the slightest scrutiny, and in court lawyers for President Donald Trump have slunk away from their shocking claims about voter fraud. Presumably that's why the senators' letter does not hold up any particular allegation as credible. It doesn't claim that Trump actually won the election, as he keeps insisting. It doesn't even say that there's a strong probability that an audit would show that a single state was wrongly put in Biden's column.

The argument rests entirely on the facts that there are a lot of allegations and that many people think there is something to them. Those facts are accurate, but they cut against what Hawley, Cruz and their confederates are doing.

The reason so many Americans have doubts about the election – "tragically," as the Cruz letter puts it – is that Trump and his allies have been sowing those doubts. Trump has made one wild claim after another, offering no evidence of any of them and not correcting the record when proven wrong. He recently attacked Georgia's Republican secretary of state, Brad Raffensperger, by saying his "brother works for China." There is a Ron Raffensperger who works for the Chinese tech firm Huawei, but he is not related to the Georgia official.

They have doubts, as well, because too many Republicans and conservative media outlets have echoed Trump and too few have contradicted him. With a few exceptions, such as Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, Republican senators have generally been unwilling to say what all the evidence indicates: Biden won, there was no widespread fraud and Trump isn't telling the truth about the election.

Republicans who refuse to certify the election aren't dispelling doubts; they're reinforcing them. They're telling Republican voters that there is good reason to think Biden stole the election, without offering any such reason. The commission that many of the senators say should look into election irregularities is a dodge. If Republican politicians aren't willing to call the delusion that Biden stole the election what it is, they won't be willing to say it after a commission report.

There are three potential harms from refusing to certify a valid election, as Boxer did and many Republicans are now doing. First, the effort might succeed in preventing a legitimately elected president from taking office – a catastrophic possibility, but thankfully one that is remote now, just as it was in 2005. Second, by legitimizing the tactic of not certifying election results that displease senators, the effort might keep a future elected president from taking office or at least cause severe political instability. Boxer was the only senator to object in 2005.

For a dozen or more senators to follow her example now (and to cite her approvingly, as Hawley has) would raise this risk considerably.

Third, the effort could spread the poisonous and false idea that votes are not counted fairly in U.S. elections. That danger increases the more officials till the ground for the idea, as Trump and many other Republicans have done. What Boxer did in 2005 was irresponsible, and should have been widely condemned. What Republicans are doing right now is worse.

Ramesh Ponnuru is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a senior editor at National Review.

It will be hard to ignore Trump after Jan. 20

The first draft of my New Year's resolutions this year began with a promise to stop writing about Donald Trump after he leaves the White House. But like so many New Year's resolutions, keeping that promise is likely to prove impossible — mostly because Trump won't leave the political stage and is already flirting with a 2024 run.

Doyle McManus

Presidential candidates who lose a general election rarely run again, and they almost never win.

The stain of defeat is hard to erase, and the party and its voters usually choose to move on. Most losers head for the Senate (Mitt Romney, John McCain) or retire (Hillary Clinton, Al Gore).

The only exception in modern times was Richard M. Nixon more than half a century ago – and his comeback took eight years, from 1960 to 1968.

But Trump, who never felt bound by history or precedent, sounds as if he's ready to try. Fresh from a walloping at the hands of Joe Biden, Trump is showing every sign of running for the Republican nomination in 2024.

The soon-to-be-former president has plenty of reasons to keep that possibility alive. Most of them are matters of self-interest.

Trump never appeared to enjoy being president much, but he clearly loves campaigning and exercising power. Flirting with a 2024 candidacy gives him an excuse to hold rallies and to terrify Republican politicians via Twitter. And whether or not he really believes the election was stolen, there is no label Trump loathes more than "loser." Continuing the fight allows him to claim, however spuriously, that he didn't really lose.

Perhaps most important, politics has given Trump a new revenue stream – perhaps even a new business model, which might be useful in an economy that has been unkind to commercial real estate and the hotel industry, the core of his private business. By waging legal battles (even frivolous ones) and suggesting he may run again, Trump has found that he can collect hundreds of millions of dollars with little or no effort; his campaign and his new political action committee have reportedly collected more than $250 million after his defeat.

Still, like any out-of-office politician, Trump will face a challenge: He needs to find a way to stay relevant.

He's unlikely to formally declare a presidential candidacy soon, because that would limit his fundraising and require yearly financial disclosures.

He's not very skilled at influencing legislation in Congress, as he demonstrated frequently over the last four years.

But Trump has been effective in influencing voters in Republican primaries – the real source of his sway over his party in Congress. So one likely post-presidential role for him will be as a kingmaker within his party.

For the same reason, his presence will freeze the 2024 GOP presidential race: Other potential candidates will be reluctant to challenge him.

"It will especially freeze donors," Alex Conant, a Republican strategist, told me. "If you're a super-donor, you're not going to pick sides until you know whether Trump is running."

And, of course, Trump will try to attract media coverage – the oxygen that fueled his rise to power in 2016.

That presents news organizations and columnists like me with a difficult choice: How much coverage should they give a noisy former president who refuses to retire gracefully?

Some media critics have already admonished editors to refuse to give Trump any attention once he's out of office – a boycott, in effect.

But Trump will be newsworthy as long as he remains an important force in his party.

He shouldn't be covered just because he used to be president, and he'll have to earn any attention he gets. But he has retained the allegiance of most Republicans, and he commands at least pro forma loyalty from Republicans in Congress, some of whom plan to demonstrate their fealty by challenging Biden's electoral votes today. Someone with that much sway over his party can't just be ignored.

If Trump succeeds in holding his base together and exerting real influence over GOP politicians, that's something the public will need to know. And if he falls on his face, that's something we need to know about, too.

And there's always the possibility of legal action against him by the Manhattan district attorney or some other law enforcement agency. That, too, would be newsworthy.

Trump could turn out to be another Nixon, a canny politician who plotted a successful comeback – but he could also be, as Conant said, "another Sarah Palin," a populist darling who quickly becomes irrelevant after leaving office.

Don't count him out – but don't give him a free pass, either. If Trump wants to extend his political influence, he's going to have to work for it.

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

Some taxpayers find relief payments sent to wrong account

By SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
AP Personal Finance Writer

A number of taxpayers who use tax preparation services, such as H&R Block and TurboTax, say their second relief payments were sent to the incorrect bank account, forcing them to wait longer for their money.

The IRS and the Treasury Department began issuing the Economic Impact Payments last week. The payment is $600 for each eligible adult and dependent for people earning up to $75,000, or $150,000 for married couples filing jointly. Those earning more than that are eligible for a reduced payment.

The IRS said that direct deposit payments would take several days to post to individual accounts but funds were largely available on Monday. Some payments are also being sent via paper check or debit cards during the month of January.

Taxpayers can use the Get My Payment tool on the IRS website to find out about the status of their payment.

However, many people said that they checked the IRS site and found their payments were sent to an account they did not recognize.

Samantha Smith of Dallas said she received her $1,200 relief payment in the spring via direct deposit without any issues. But her payment for this round of economic relief went to an account she did not recognize.

She contacted TurboTax, which prepared her most recent tax filing, and was told if she paid her tax preparation fees with her refund due, rather than paying for it upfront, then the second payment may have been sent to a TurboTax bank. Several other taxpayers who paid their fees the same way also reported delays.

Smith, who was laid off in October, had planned to use the money to pay her rent and is frustrated as her hands tied until the money comes in.

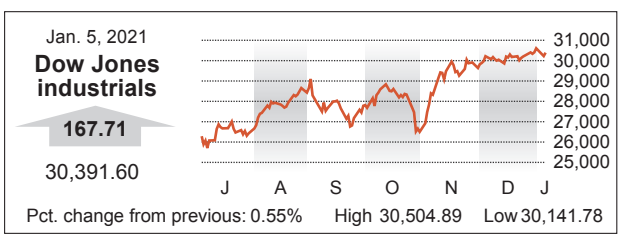
"I would love that money," she said. "It's imperative."

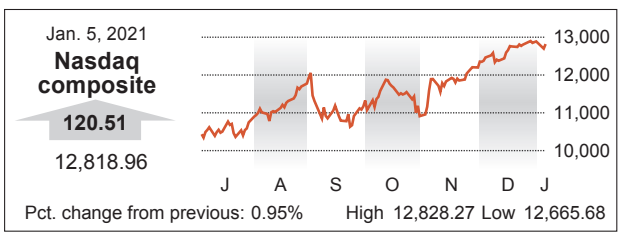
There is no exact measure at this time of how many taxpayers were impacted. The IRS did not comment Tuesday on the scope or cause of the problem. It said that "because of the speed at which the law required the IRS to issue the second round of Economic Impact Payments, some payments may have been sent to an account that may be closed or, is or no longer active, or unfamiliar."

TurboTax said that the IRS is the "sole party with the ability to determine eligibility and distribute stimulus payments" and that by law, the financial institution must return the payment to the IRS if an account is no longer active.

"We know how important these funds are for so many Americans and that everyone is anxious to get their money," said company spokeswoman Ashley McMahon. "We are partnering with the IRS to help taxpayers receive their payments as quickly as possible."

MARKETS





Amer Elec Power AEP
$81.43 **-.11 -.1%**
▼ **4-wk.** -2.5% ▼ **YTD** -2.2%

Whirlpool WHR
$178.73 **+1.83 +1.0%**
▼ **4-wk.** -3.5% ▼ **YTD** -1.0%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.55	29.26	-.18	-0.6	▲	▼	▲
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	81.43	-.11	-0.1	▼	▼	▼
Apple Inc s	AAPL	53.15	138.79	131.01	+1.60	+1.2	▼	▲	▼
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1267.93	1180.35	-.05	...	▼	▲	▼
BP PLC	BP	14.74	40.08	22.38	+1.55	+7.4	▲	▲	▲
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	58.55	-1.06	-1.8	▼	▼	▼
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	52.18	-.58	-1.1	▼	▼	▼
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	52.49	49.98	-.30	-0.6	▼	▼	▼
Deere	DE	106.14	273.75	274.28	+6.64	+2.5	▲	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	79.07	183.40	178.44	+.76	+0.4	▼	▲	▼
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	114.32	107.13	+.19	+0.2	▼	▼	▼
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	71.36	43.50	+2.00	+4.8	▲	▲	▲
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	30.47	27.61	+.38	+1.4	▲	▲	▲
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	51.85	40.06	+.36	+0.9	▼	▲	▼
FordM	F	3.96	9.50	8.65	+.13	+1.5	▼	▼	▼
GenElec	GE	5.48	13.26	10.77	+.30	+2.9	▼	▼	▼
HomeDp	HD	140.63	292.95	266.05	+2.13	+0.8	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	18.75	15.56	+.13	+0.8	▼	▲	▼
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.82	14.86	12.84	+.28	+2.2	▲	▼	▲
IDEX	IEX	104.56	199.50	194.93	-.38	-0.2	▼	▲	▼
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	126.14	+2.20	+1.8	▲	▲	▲
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	140.76	125.65	+.68	+0.5	▼	▲	▼
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	157.66	158.34	+1.84	+1.2	▲	▲	▲
Lowes	LOW	60.00	180.67	160.92	+.54	+0.3	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	231.91	211.48	+1.26	+0.6	▼	▲	▼
Microsoft	MSFT	132.52	232.86	217.90	+.21	+0.1	▼	▲	▼
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	42.26	34.12	+1.02	+3.1	▲	▼	▲
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	44.27	-.36	-0.8	▼	▼	▼
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	43.08	37.19	+.38	+1.0	▲	▼	▲
ProctGam	PG	94.34	146.92	138.70	+.88	+0.6	▼	▲	▼
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	103.79	93.64	+.10	+0.1	▼	▼	▼
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	20.24	13.04	+.30	+2.4	▼	▼	▼
Stryker	SYK	124.54	245.53	239.66	+.64	+0.3	▼	▲	▼
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	46.93	37.82	+.94	+2.5	▲	▲	▲
Target	TGT	90.17	181.17	180.37	+2.74	+1.5	▲	▲	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	157.07	140.69	+.98	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	82.00	178.01	161.52	-2.28	-1.4	▼	▼	▼
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	61.95	58.58	-.27	-0.5	▼	▼	▼
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	90.09	-.29	-0.3	▼	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	102.00	153.66	145.75	-.78	-0.5	▲	▼	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	33.36	59.78	41.16	-.24	-0.6	▲	▼	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.91	21.53	+.15	+0.7	▼	▼	▼
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	207.30	178.73	+1.83	+1.0	▼	▼	▼
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	56.43	53.64	+2.45	+4.8	▲	▬	▲
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	123.59	118.03	+1.51	+1.3	▼	▼	▼

OBITUARIES

Death notices

David Berg, 75, of Lawton died Dec. 28, 2020. Betzler & Thompson Life Story Funeral Home, Paw Paw, 657-3870.

Kay Godfrey Cramer, 65, of Stevensville died Dec. 29, 2020. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Martha Gipson, 95, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 19, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Danny Kirksey, 74, of Stevensville died Dec. 24, 2020.

Ronald Joseph Seeley, 73, of Benton Harbor died Jan. 4, 2021. The Boyd Chapel of Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Christine Elaine Tillman, 66, of Galien died Jan. 4, 2021. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Robert N. "Nick" Youdell, 89, of Cumming, Ga., died Jan. 2, 2021. Ingram Funeral Home and Crematory, Cumming, Ga., 770-887-2388.

Robert Youdell

Dec. 25, 1931 – Jan. 2, 2021

Robert N. "Nick" Youdell, 89, of Cumming, Ga., passed away Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021.

Mr. Youdell was a devoted family man, a patriot who lived by his principles, and a good friend to everyone who knew him. He served his country during the Korean War as a member of the U.S. Navy, and was proud that his family has served in the U.S. Navy for four generations.

Born in Watervliet, Nick worked as an industrial engineer for Clark Equipment in Benton Harbor, for 22 years. He then worked for several other industries in Southwest Michigan until his retirement in 1994, when he and his wife, Susan, moved to Franklin, N.C.; with a final move to Cumming, in 2003. Mr. Youdell was an active member of the United Methodist Church since 1958, singing in church choirs in Benton Harbor, Stevensville, Franklin N.C., and Cumming.

Mr. Youdell was a life member of the American Legion, served on the Board of Cumming Post 307, and was selected as Legionnaire Of The Year in 2009. He was a Past Commander of the American Legion in Franklin, N.C., also serving on color guard and funeral detail. He was a member of the VFW, and served for 14 years as an emergency room volunteer at Northside Hospital Forsyth. In 2015, Mr. Youdell received the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal of Honor for his service to the community

Nick was a lifelong fan of the University of Michigan athletic teams and the Detroit Tigers; and he was an avid fisherman, bow-hunter and golfer. An experienced carpenter and craftsman for many years, he made furniture, canoes, and also carved exceptional figures of marine life and waterfowl.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Susan Roper Youdell; his daughter, Pamela Bousquet (Raymond) of Winter Haven, Fla.; his son, Mark (Marjorie) Youdell of Cumming; three grandsons: Robert, Daniel and R. Nicholas Bousquet; two granddaughters: Sarah and Elizabeth Youdell; one step-grandson, Josh Virgadamo; and one step-granddaughter, Heather Potter; one brother, Michael Youdell of Coloma; one sister, Vicki Letke of Bridgman; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Edward and Lena Youdell; and his brother, Gerald Youdell, all of Watervliet.

Funeral services will be at a later date to be announced. Interment will be in the Boston City Cemetery, Boston, Ga.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Music Department of the Cumming, Ga., First United Methodist Church, 770 Canton Highway, Cumming, GA 30040, Attention: John Hutchinson Director of Music.

Ingram Funeral Home and Crematory, Cumming, Ga. is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.ingramfuneralhome.com.

Janice Carol (Hester) Martin

Janice was such a kind and loving woman and she loved her husband, (who called her Angel), and her family with all her heart. Her children and grandchildren were such a blessing to her. She touched so many lives by being just the wonderful testimony that she was and servant of the Lord.

Music was such a big part of her life. She was a very talented singer and musician. She started playing the piano at a young age. She used her musical talents to serve the Lord and shine a light to all who heard her. The Heavenly Father opened his arms wide to greet her on Jan. 2, 2021. She is now in his presence and with all her loved ones gone on before her. What a great union.

Surviving are her children: Christopher (Tanya) Martin, Patrick (Lisa) O'Brien; daughter-in-law, Cindy Martin; sister, Naomi (Bruce) Williams; brothers: Robert Glenn (Jilan) Hester, Roy Don (Tina) Hester, Nathan (Linda) Hester; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David L. Martin; sons: Jeff Malarney and Kraig Martin; and grandson, Andrew Martin.

The family will meet friends Thursday, Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. until time of funeral services at 11 a.m. at the Merson Church, 3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI 49055.

Memorial donations may be directed to the family to assist with expenses.

Interment will follow in Hudson Corners Cemetery, Allegan Township.

Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

Kay Marie Cramer

Oct. 7, 1955 – Dec. 29, 2020

Kay Godfrey Cramer, 65, of Stevensville was called home by her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, at her home.

A celebration of life will be planned for spring. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

Kay was born Oct. 7, 1955, in Indianapolis, the daughter of Donald and Marjorie (Hartman) Godfrey.

Kay was very devoted to, and proud of her five children: Joseph (Lisa Johnson) Nitz, Jason Nitz, Julia Thackston, Michael Thackston and Katelyn Moran. She adored her seven grandchildren: Camron, Paige, Michael, Jonah, Emilia, Ryan and Matthew.

She is survived by her father, Donald (Bonnie) Godfrey; a stepfather, Larry Ball; her siblings, whom she was very close: Jane (Robert) Godfrey Cunningham, Judy Schultz, Jay Godfrey, Todd Godfrey; stepsisters: Tina Schaeffer and Angel Nelson; a stepbrother, Artie Stine.

Kay's mother, Marjorie Ball, preceded her in death in 2018.

She valued her Four Winds family, where she was employed for 10 years. Kay enjoyed cooking for her family, visiting Rockville, Ind., and her Salted Caramel Budino from the coffee shop. Kay cherished time spent with her brothers and sisters and her many dear friends; many considered her a mentor and a second mom.

Kay was a Christian and a patriot; she deeply loved God and her country. She was a loyal, generous, kind soul who shared all that she had with others. She loved to make people laugh and she was loved by all who knew her. She leaves behind so many friends. We will miss her beautiful smile until we all meet her again in Heaven.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Boyd Chapel of Pike Funeral and Cremations Service, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

Danny Ray Kirksey

Danny Ray Kirksey, 74, of Stevensville went to be with Jesus on Dec. 24, 2020, after a long battle with cancer caused by Agent Orange while serving in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War.

He was born to Molene (Howell) Kirksey and Raymond Kirksey in St. Joseph. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Kirksey; his four children: Debra, Michelle, Craig and Robb; 13 grandkids; 12 great-grandkids; many nieces and nephews; and his brother, Dennis Kirksey.

He is predeceased by his parents; his brother, Jerry; and two sisters: Glenna and Joyce.

Danny worked at Murphy's after graduating high school and was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served in Vietnam. When he returned home from serving his country he started working at Custometal Products and proceeded to work there for the next 53 years.

He married his wife, Bonnie (Goetz) Kirksey, on Sept. 17, 1971.

Danny was the type to do anything for his loved ones and family. Those that were close to him learned a lot about life, working hard, and having a selfless attitude.

His memorial service will be from 1-4 p.m., Jan. 9, at 2nd Chance True Gospel Ministries, 1662 Milton, Benton Harbor. Please come join us to celebrate his life and share all the great memories he left behind.

Martha Gipson

Oct. 15, 1925 – Dec. 19, 2020

Mother Martha Gipson, affectionately known as Moy, 95, was born on Oct. 15, 1925, to Grover and Elnora Jennings in Parmer, Mo. Martha Gipson was the third child of seven children. She accepted Christ at the St. Mark Baptist Church where she remained until her sunset.

She was united in holy matrimony to Guss Gipson in 1946. To that union, five children were born. Mother Gipson was a hard worker who worked as a migrant laborer in the fields.

She loved cooking and attending church where she participated in Sunday school, sang in the senior choir, and was a member of the Mother's Board.

Martha Gipson passed away Dec. 19, 2020, at home surrounded by family. She leaves to cherish her memories two sweet and loving daughters: Bobby Coleman and Betty (Dennis) Wyrick; two sons: Guss (Gloria) Gipson, Walter Gipson; two adopted sons: Sylvester Taylor I, and Demarcus Hockett, 15 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; 43 great-great-grandchildren; as well a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Guss Gipson; parents: Grover and Elnora Jennings; one daughter, Shirley Gipson; four brothers: Wardell Jennings, Odell Jennings, William Jennings, and Eddie Jennings; two sisters: Virley Agee and Odessa Johnson; two great-great-granddaughters: Myra Taylor and Lauryn Davis Wadford; and a special son-in-law, Henry Coleman Sr.

A Homegoing Celebration will be Friday Jan. 8, at St. Mark Baptist Church, 802 Pavone St, Benton Harbor, with visitation starting at 10 a.m., followed by services at 11 a.m. Those wishing to sign her guest book may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Christine Elaine Tillman

June 15, 1954 – Jan. 4, 2021

Christine Elaine Tillman, 66, of Galien passed away Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

Christine was born June 15, 1954, in Benton Harbor, the daughter of Charles and Caroline (Zachary) Avery, both of whom precede her in passing. Also preceding her in passing are a sister, Pamela Champ; and a brother, Lawrence Avery.

Christine was a 1972 graduate of Hartford High School. She was the family's "lynchpin," knowing when everyone's birthday and holiday was, and loved sending cards, never ceasing to keep in touch with all those she touched. She was a friend to anyone and loved talking with people, even those she did not know. In her spare time, she enjoyed taking trips to the lake to watch the waves and grab a bite to eat. But her most precious times were spent with her family that she loved most, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Christine married Arnold Tillman on May 10, 2003. He survives, along with four children: Chad (Deborah) Bedwell of Hartford, Sally (Kevin) Waldrop of Berrien Springs, Troy (April) Bedwell of Galien and Karen (Nick) Anders of South Haven. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren: Brooklyn Smith, Martin Bedwell, Stephanie Boughner, Jason Hathcock, Katelynn Bedwell, Ray Bedwell, Thomas Bedwell, Hunter Bedwell, William Anders, Alex Anders, Kevin Waldrop Jr., Paige Waldrop and Blake Waldrop; seven great-grandchildren: Christine Elaine Smith, Theodore Thomas Smith, Savannah Swearengin, Sierra Swearengin, Blair McMeeken, Varrick Anders and Elias Anders; a great-great-grandson, Jaxxon Russell; two sisters: Sheila (Don) Tillman of Hartford and Marilyn Schrumpf of Galien; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will welcome friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8, at the Full Gospel Assembly Church, Hartford, where the service to honor her memory will commence at 1 p.m. with Pastor Lonnie Truelove officiating. Following the service, she will be cremated and burial will follow at a later date.

The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave a memorial condolence for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1996 – 25 years ago

The Sodus Township farm owned by Jack and Virginia Ashman has been certified as a centennial farm by the Michigan Historical Commission. Ashman was born and raised on the farm. Officially, the farm has been in the family since 1895, but his grandfather, Henry, was there before then. Henry rented the farm and paid for it in installments, buying it in 1895.

1986 – 35 years ago

Halley's Comet will rocket into view next week in Michigan, but astronomers say it will disappear again in a week from the state's southwestern sky. While the comet will be faint but visible to the naked eye, appearing with a short upward-pointing tail in areas with no other light interfering, viewing will be best with binoculars, according to Robert Victor, an astronomer at MSU's Abrams Planetarium.

1971 – 50 years ago

The 14th annual meeting of the Dwarf Fruit Tree Association will be held for the third consecutive year at the Ramada Inn in Benton Harbor on March 8-9. The conference will deal with handling of compact fruit trees, training and pruning trees, the problem of collar rot, tree anchorage, size control, herbicide injury and other pertinent grower-related conditions. Donald McKenzie of the Havelock North Research Station in New Zealand will be the featured speaker.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 2021. There are 359 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Jan. 6, 2001, with Vice President Al Gore presiding in his capacity as president of the Senate, Congress formally certified George W. Bush the winner of the bitterly contested 2000 presidential election.

On this date:

In 1412, tradition holds that Joan of Arc was born this day in Domremy.

In 1912, New Mexico became the 47th state.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, outlined a goal of "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech and expression; the freedom of people to worship God in their own way; freedom from want; freedom from fear.

In 1968, a surgical team at Stanford University School of Medicine in Palo Alto, California, led by Dr. Norman Shumway, performed the first U.S. adult heart transplant, placing the heart of a 43-year-old man in a 54-year-old patient (the recipient died 15 days later).

In 1998, in a new bid to expand health insurance, President Clinton unveiled a proposal to offer Medicare coverage to hundreds of thousands of uninsured Americans from ages 55 to 64.

In 2003, Iraqi President Saddam In 2017, Congress certified Donald Trump's presidential victory over the objections of a handful of House Democrats, with Vice President Joe Biden pronouncing, "It is over."

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly Cloudy Areas of Fog	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
36°	29°	35° / 26°	33° / 23°	32° / 24°	34° / 25°

Local Outlook

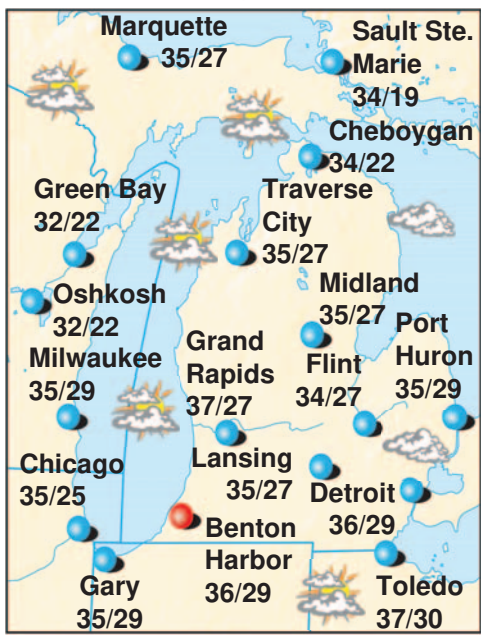
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with areas of fog, high temperature of 36°, humidity of 77%. Light winds. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 29°. East northeast wind 3 to 6 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 24°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 8:14 a.m.
Sunset ..... 5:29 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 12:45 a.m.
Moonset ..... 12:48 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
1/6	1/13	1/20	1/28

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	34°
Low	26°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	17°
Record High	55° in 1998
Record Low	-20° in 1999

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.76"
Normal for month	0.28"
Year to date	0.76"
Normal Year to date	0.28"

Air Quality

Yesterday 67
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

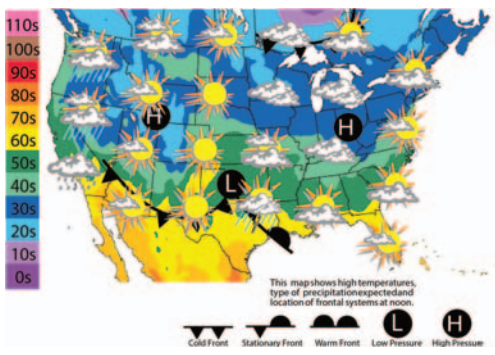
Weather Trivia

What is the best tornado detector? ?

Answer: While doppler radar is good, the human eye is still the best detector.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 6, 2021



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, Variable winds 5 kt or less. Cloudy. Waves 1 ft or less. Water temperature 39 degrees. Tonight, ENE wind around 8 kt. Mostly cloudy. Waves 1 ft or less.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 30s. North wind 2 to 5 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with highs in the 30s. North northeast wind 7 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 30s. Light winds. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with highs in the 30s. Northeast wind 6 to 9 mph.

Jacquelyn Martin / AP

People attend a rally at Freedom Plaza on Tuesday in Washington, in support of President Donald Trump.

Dividing party, Republicans poised to challenge Biden win

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans mounting an unprecedented challenge to Joe Biden's election win are setting up a congressional showdown on Wednesday that threatens to divide their party and the country for years to come.

With protestors already gathering in Washington to support President Donald Trump, the House and the Senate will convene a joint session to count the electoral votes cast in November's election. Trump has repeatedly said there was widespread fraud, but his claims have been roundly rejected by Republican and Democratic election officials in state after state and by judges, including at the Supreme Court, further cementing Biden's victory.

Trump sees the joint session of Congress as one of his final attempts to overturn the results, even though there is no credible path for that to happen. Echoing Trump's baseless claims, some of his Republican allies in Congress plan to formally object to the results, focusing on six battleground states – Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. But a growing number of their GOP colleagues, especially in the Senate, said they would not sign on.

If an objection has support from both a House member and a senator in writing, then both chambers will vote on it. That could happen three or more times on Wednesday as Republican Sens. Josh Hawley of Missouri, Ted Cruz of Texas, and Kelly Loeffler of Georgia, along with at least ten other GOP senators, have indicated they will support at least some of the House challenges. It is unclear just what the Republican senators will do, but the process could drag into the night as the two chambers will have to consider each objection individually.

There could be more than 100 Republicans in the House willing to object.

The challenge to the presidential election is on a scale unseen since the aftermath of the Civil War, though the typically routine process of confirming Electoral College votes has been hit with brief objections before. In 2017, several House Democrats challenged Trump's win, but Biden, who presided at the time as the vice president, swiftly dismissed them to assert Trump's victory. In 2005, a challenge by a Democratic House member and a Democratic senator to George W. Bush's victory in Ohio was quickly dismissed by both chambers.

The effort this week is expected to be much broader, but is all but certain to fail. Biden is set to be inaugurated Jan. 20.

Republicans had not yet settled on a full strategy the night before the joint session. A late-night meeting on Monday convened by Cruz reached few conclusions, according to two Republicans familiar with the situation and granted anonymity to discuss it. Cruz will object to electoral results from Arizona, another Republican said – likely to be the first objection considered, in a state Biden won.

Hawley has said he will object to the Pennsylvania results, and Loeffler may object to Georgia, where she was vying to keep her seat in a runoff election on Tuesday.

With mounting desperation, Trump declared at a campaign rally for Loeffler and David Perdue in Georgia Monday that he would "fight like hell" to hold on to the presidency and he appealed to Republican lawmakers to reverse his election loss. Perdue is seeking another six years in the Senate, but his term expired Sunday.

The days ahead will be defining for his presidency. Trump is whipping up crowds and people are gathering in Washington, where security is on alert. Lawmakers are being told to arrive early at the Capitol and some are considering sleeping overnight in their offices to ensure they can safely access the building amid the protests.

Vice President Mike Pence will be closely watched as he presides over the session. He is under growing pressure from Trump and others to tip the results in Trump's favor. But Pence has a ceremonial role that does not give him the power to affect the outcome.

"I promise you this: On Wednesday, we'll have our day in Congress," Pence said while himself campaigning in Georgia ahead of Tuesday's runoff elections that will determine control of the Senate. But he did not detail what that meant.

The high-stakes decisions on whether to ally with Trump are splitting the Republican Party. A range of Republican officials – including Gov. Larry Hogan of Maryland; Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, the third-ranking House GOP leader; and former House Speaker Paul Ryan – have criticized the GOP efforts to overturn the election. And more than a dozen Republican senators have said they will not support the effort.

VACCINE

From page A1

or fellows in training in any specialty program who are involved in direct patient care, and volunteers who work directly with patients;

■ Dentists, dental hygienists, optometrists, and clerical staff in any area of the facility who may interface with patients;

■ Hospital security guards who may interface with patients, environmental services staff in any area of facilities that may interface with patients or infectious material directly or indirectly, food service workers who may serve patients, their families, or employees;

■ Pharmacists and laboratory workers (even if they do not interface with patients);

■ Those in outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities or other outpatient settings, including, dialysis centers, rehabilitation centers, urgent care clinics, hyperbaric centers, infusion centers, rehabilitation facilities, or any other area that is involved in direct patient care whose job location may not be physically connected to a hospital.

The BCHD is working directly with facilities that employ people in these priority groups to coordinate vaccination for their employees. However, if there are facilities or people who fall into these priority groups who have not yet heard directly from the BCHD or their employer, they should contact the health department for information on appointment instructions.

People in Phase 1A can call 1-800-815-5485, or fill out an online form, at bchdmi.org, to indicate their interest in getting vaccinated. Employees should bring their occupation or work identification badge for verification upon arrival for the vaccination appointment.

At this time, vaccinations are only for those who fall into the groups listed above and are provided by appointment only. Vaccines are being provided at the BCHD offices and at drive-thru clinics at various locations throughout the county.

It is anticipated Berrien County will move on to Phase 1B by late January or early February, according to the news release. Phase 1B includes people over the age of 75, along with frontline essential workers.

To find out your phase and priority group, and to sign up for the BCHD's vaccine newsletter, visit www.bchdmi.org/1745/COVID-19-Vaccine-Information.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

SIRENS

From page A1

Adams said people may have to talk with their cell phone provider to find out how to turn the IPAWS notifications on and off.

"Some people are going to want to hear that test alert monthly, and I think that's great so they have confidence in the system," he said.

But he believes other people won't want to hear the test alert every month. He said the test alerts can be turned off while leaving the real alert system on, because they are separate functions in the program.

Adams said the 70 sirens scattered throughout the 10-mile zone were a great way to alert people of an emergency, but now there are better ways.

Adams said some people couldn't hear the sirens when they are inside their homes, while other people couldn't hear them because of diminished hearing.

"We believe that we're able to get the alerts into people's houses a lot better through these systems to have more of an opportunity to wake them up," he said.

Plus, he said the texted alerts will include detailed information regarding what people should do – something the sirens could never offer.

Adams said the county has been using the IPAWS system for years, with the plant recently receiving approval to use it for nuclear emergency alerts.

Cook Emergency Preparedness Manager Kevin Simpson said the sirens were replaced in 2008, but were starting to age and require more maintenance.

He said all of the sirens will be disabled by mid-February, with Indiana Michigan Power crews expected to remove them over the next year.

More information can be found on www.bcsheriff.org on the Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division pages.

Anyone with questions can call the Cook Energy Information Center at 800-548-2555, or Berrien County Emergency Management at 983-7111 ext. 4915.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

GOOD FELLOW

From page A1

St. Joseph Lions Club, St. Joseph Township Lions Club and Lakeshore Lions Club.

Donations late last week came in from: Joyce Richards, $25; Austin Tax and Financial, $500; Linda Korrell, $25.

Also, the following donations came from the Monday Musical Club of Southwest Michigan: Monday Musical Club of Southwest Michigan, $175; Mary Spaulding, $100; Anonymous, $100; Rodger and Madelyn Huelsberg, $20; Gordon and Niki Schreiber, $10; Joanne Muldoon, $65; and Michael and Kimberly Shelton, $30.

hp SPORTS

Charles Rex Arbogast / AP

Chicago's Patrick Kane skates after the puck as he participates in a training camp practice Monday in Chicago.

Strong work ethic wanted

Blackhawks hope to outhustle opponents after tough offseason

By JAY COHEN
Associated Press

Charles Rex Arbogast

Chicago's Duncan Keith handles the puck during Monday's practice.

CHICAGO — Sure, the front office of the Chicago Blackhawks is talking about its version of a rebuild. That just doesn't matter too much to Patrick Kane.

The star forward looks around his only NHL team, the one he helped lead to three Stanley Cup titles, and sees opportunity.

"As a player, I feel like I've always been a guy that kind of just tries to better myself and try not to worry too much about other people's jobs or what the next step is as a franchise," Kane said. "I think as a player, you want to win now. You want to compete now. And I think we can do that with this group. I think we can surprise some people."

That might not be too difficult considering the outside expectations after Chicago waved goodbye to longtime goaltender Corey Crawford in free agency and traded rugged forward Brandon Saad to Colorado. The availability of captain Jonathan Toews also is uncertain while he is away from the team to deal with an illness that has left him feeling "drained and lethargic."

Oh, and Kirby Dach and Alex Nylander could miss the entire 56-game season after each young forward had surgery last month.

Not exactly smooth sailing for a franchise that had enjoyed years of stability, headed by the steady presence of Toews, Kane and defensemen Duncan Keith and Brent Seabrook. But the Blackhawks sound as if they welcome what is being said about them.

"You're aware of how we're perceived, whether that's through media or fans or across the league," coach Jeremy Colliton said, "and we got something to prove. It's a challenge for us as the coaching staff but also the players we have, we've got to be relentless in how we're going to work to get better."

In goal

Crawford's departure leaves a gaping hole in net. Crawford, who played a key role in Chicago's championships in 2013 and 2015, had a .917 save percentage and a 2.77 goals-against average last season. He also started every game as Chicago eliminated Edmonton in the qualifying round before losing to Vegas in the playoffs.

Malcolm Subban, Collin Delia and Kevin Lankinen are the front-runners for the starting job. But it could be a timeshare with the unusual schedule and the uncertainty surrounding the position. The 27-year-old Subban is the most experienced option with 66 career NHL appearances.

Worth watching

Adam Boqvist and Ian Mitchell lead a promising group of young defensemen who figure to get a long look this year. Boqvist was selected by Chicago with the No. 8 pick in the 2018 draft, and Mitchell was a second-round pick in 2017.

Boqvist, 20, made his NHL debut last season and finished with four goals and nine assists in 41 games.

See **BLACKHAWKS**, page B2

Red Wings entering 5th season of rebuilding

By LARRY LAGE
AP Hockey Writer

Paul Sancya / AP

In this Feb. 25, 2020 photo, Detroit Red Wings center Dylan Larkin (71) skates with the puck against the New Jersey Devils in the first period of a game.

The Detroit Red Wings have spent half a decade rebuilding.

And, this still might not be the year a once-proud franchise with 11 Stanley Cups breaks through and makes the playoffs.

Detroit had the NHL's worst record last season with 23 fewer points than any other team in a pandemic-altered season that mercifully lasted just 71 games.

When this shortened, 56-game season ends in May, the Red Wings will most likely extend their postseason drought to five years to match the longest since they were known as the Dead Wings from 1979-83.

Entering his second season as general manager with the franchise he led as a Hall of Fame center, Steve Yzerman is making no promises about progress.

"I can't really predict what we're going to be," Yzerman said. "I believe we'll be improved from last year. How much? I don't know."

Rusty Wings

The Red Wings have not played a game since March 10 because they didn't qualify for the 24-team playoff format last season.

They're trying to knock the rust off with exhibition games, including one on Tuesday at Little Caesars Arena.

"I was just saying to one of the guys, just to get out there, whether it's a game or a scrimmage, just to get back in game shape and a game format it was fun," winger Tyler Bertuzzi said.

The big three

Detroit is hoping that a trio of standouts turning into stars this season.

Center Dylan Larkin, who may be named captain, has three seasons left on his $30-plus million contract. The Red Wings signed winger Anthony Mantha to a $22.8 million, four-year deal, and Bertuzzi was awarded a $3.5 million, one-year contract in arbitration.

Each player has been good, but this team needs all of them to be better on a regular basis to have a shot to surpass low expectations.

"I want to be a great player in this league," Larkin said. "I want our team to be a great team that's respected and is back in contention for the Stanley Cup every year."

Ryan's rewrite

Bobby Ryan is shooting to revive his career, taking advantage of a chance to play for a team in desperate need of help with a $1 million,

See **RED WINGS**, page B2

Alabama WR Smith wins Heisman Trophy

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

Roger Steinman / AP

Alabama wide receiver DeVonta Smith has been named winner of the Heisman Trophy.

NEW YORK — On an Alabama team stacked with stars, DeVonta Smith emerged as the best player in college football.

Smith became the first wide receiver to win the Heisman Trophy in 29 seasons Tuesday night, breaking the monopoly quarterbacks have had on college football's most prestigious award by beating out three of them.

Smith finished with 447 first-place votes and 1,856 points to easily outdistance Clemson's Trevor Lawrence (222, 1,187), Alabama teammate Mac Jones (138, 1,130) and Florida's Kyle Trask (61, 737).

The Crimson Tide senior is the fourth receiver to win the Heisman, joining Michigan's Desmond Howard in 1991, Notre Dame's Tim Brown in 1987 and Nebraska's Johnny Rodgers in 1972.

Quarterbacks had won 17 of the previous 20 Heisman trophies, including the last four.

Smith is the third Alabama player to win the Heisman, all since 2009. Like Tide running backs Mark Ingram ('09) and Derrick Henry (2015), Smith will play in the national championship game as a Heisman winner.

No. 1 Alabama faces No. 3 Ohio State on Jan. 11 in the College Football Playoff title game in Miami Gardens, Florida.

The Heisman voting was complete on Dec. 21, so playoff performances were not a factor. But Smith made those who supported him feel good about it with a brilliant three-touchdown game against Notre Dame in the CFP semifinals last weekend.

Smith has 105 catches for 1,641 yards and 22 total touchdowns going into the final game of his college career – which will also be his third national championship game.

Smith carved out a place in Alabama's storied history as a freshman, catching the winning 41-yard touchdown pass from Tua Tagovailoa in overtime against Georgia to give the Tide the 2017 national championship.

For the next two seasons, Smith was still often the overlooked star in the Tide's talented 2017 class of receivers that included All-American Jerry Jeudy and Henry Ruggs. Both of those players decided to skip their senior seasons and enter the draft last year. Both were selected in the first round.

Smith returned to school to complete his degree and form an explosive combination for the Tide with junior Jaylen Waddle. Then Waddle went down with a season-ending leg injury on Oct. 24.

As the Tide's undisputed No. 1 receiver, Smith shined. The week after Waddle went out, Smith had 11 catches for 204 yards and four touchdowns against Mississippi State.

Smith's soaring one-handed TD grab against LSU was not just his signature play, but one the 2020 season's best.

A former four-star recruit from Amite, Louisiana, Smith came to Tuscaloosa from LSU's backyard, disappointing the many Tigers' fans in his hometown.

He had only seven receptions as a freshman, and while he scored the winning touchdown in the national title game, the story was of the game was the guy who threw it.

Tagovailoa was Alabama's Heisman contender for the next two years.

The understated Smith quietly led the Tide in receptions and yards last year as a junior and became a second-team All-American.

Smitty – as teammates and coaches call him – didn't emerge as a Hesiman contender this season until Waddle went down.

Starting with that Mississippi State game, Smith went on a four-game tear with 35 catches for 749 yards and 11 touchdowns that solidified another nickname for the 6-foot-1, 175-pound technician: the Slim Reaper.

Whatever you want to call Smith, he's been quite a catch for Alabama.

Ex-Wisconsin QB Coan transferring to ND

SOUTH BEND (AP) — Former Wisconsin quarterback Jack Coan says he's transferring to Notre Dame.

Coan posted a tweet Monday night that included the Notre Dame logo along with the message, "Extremely thankful for the opportunity. Let's get to work! @NDFootball."

Wisconsin disclosed two weeks ago that Coan had entered the transfer portal. Notre Dame and Wisconsin are scheduled to face each other on Sept. 25 at Chicago's Soldier Field.

Notre Dame's 2021 roster was lacking a proven quarterback. The Fighting Irish need to replace three-year starter Ian Book, whose college career ended Friday with a 31-14 loss to Alabama in a College Football Playoff semifinal.

Coan made 18 starts for Wisconsin from 2018-19 but injured his right foot in preseason practice this year and underwent surgery. The 6-foot-3 senior from Sayville, New York, suited up for Wisconsin's final three regular-season games but didn't play. Redshirt freshman Graham Mertz has taken over as the Badgers' starting quarterback.

During the 2019 season, Coan completed a school-record 236 passes for 2,727 yards with 18 touchdowns and five interceptions as Wisconsin went 10-4 and reached the Rose Bowl.

Coan completed 68 percent of his passes for 3,278 yards with 32 touchdowns and eight interceptions at Wisconsin. The Badgers went 12-6 in the games Coan started, including 8-3 in Big Ten games.

The Irish's returning scholarship quarterbacks are Brendon Clark and Drew Pyne, though Clark was dealing with a knee injury during the latter part of this season. Notre Dame's recruiting class includes quarterbacks Tyler Buchner and Ron Powlus III.

Major shots, and shots special to major champions

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Dustin Johnson and Bryson DeChambeau are renowned for their power, so in a year no one could have imagined, perhaps it was only fitting the signature shot from their major championships came from shorter clubs.

Doug Ferguson
On the Fringe

And then there's Collin Morikawa, polished and precise, who won his major with the longest club in the bag.

Although the British Open was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was the first time since 1981 all the majors were decided by two shots or more. That didn't mean they were devoid of crucial moments. Before moving on to a new year, here's a look back at the defining shot of each major, and the shots that were meaningful to the winners even if they didn't get much attention.

PGA Championship

Morikawa's driver on the 16th hole of the final round at Harding Park was not only the defining moment of the PGA Championship, it took its place as among the most clutch drives in any major.

He was tied for the lead with Paul Casey, who had just birdied the 16th in the group ahead to reach 11-under par. Morikawa reached for driver on the 294-yard hole with trees down the left and a steep bank leading to Lake Merced on the right.

"I made sure I gave it full thought – what I had to do, where I wanted to miss," he said. "The wind was from the left and into us. It was a perfect driver. I didn't have to do anything with it. When I hit it, I was just hoping for a straight bounce. And I got the straight bounce."

The ball settled 7 feet away, and he made the eagle putt to lead by two, his winning margin.

Morikawa mentioned two putts from about 25 feet he felt were equally instrumental that are easy to overlook because they came much earlier in the final round. One was on the first hole, which kept him from losing ground early. The other was on No. 6, where Morikawa pulled his tee shot, put his approach in the right rough and hit a chip 25 feet by the hole.

"I was trying to get out of there with a bogey," he said. "Those two par putts were huge."

U.S. Open

DeChambeau had a one-shot lead over Matthew Wolff playing the par-5 ninth in the final round at Winged Foot when he tugged a 9-iron that settled some 30 feet left of the flag, which looked even longer when Wolff hit wedge to 10 feet.

John Minchillo / AP

Bryson DeChambeau picks up his ball after sinking a putt on the third green during the third round of the U.S. Open on Sept. 19, 2020. DeChambeau said this par putt was key in his weekend run toward his first major.

"It was a weird putt that I didn't really know how to read it other than to look at it and say, 'OK, I think this is the right line,'" DeChambeau said. "I was able to start it 27 inches out to the right. It broke farther than that, then it came back. I was just trying to get it close to the hole."

It dropped for eagle, and he kept his one-shot lead when Wolff made his much shorter eagle putt.

DeChambeau says he often has trouble remembering shots at big events because he works so hard at staying in the moment. But he remembers the par-3 third hole on Saturday, which he felt was key to having a chance on Sunday.

Starting the third round one shot behind, DeChambeau opened with two straight bogeys. On the 243-yard third hole, he was left of the bunker that was left of the green. He was staring at a third straight bogey.

"I had to flop it over the bunker," he said. "It was a very difficult shot, and I hit it up there to 6 feet. That kept me from going 3 over. It saved me a little bit, and I just corrected myself after that. What's interesting is I don't remember much because I'm so focused when I'm in the middle of it. I remember that shot because I was going in the wrong direction."

The Masters

Johnson swears he wasn't worried.

Starting the final round with a four-shot lead, he had to scramble for par on the easiest hole at Augusta National (the par-5 second), then missed 5-foot par putts on the fourth and fifth holes as his lead shrunk to a single shot.

"I know I made two bogeys, but it wasn't like I made really bad bogeys," he said. "It didn't bother me. I knew I was swinging it well. I just needed to be patient."

Patience was rewarded on the next hole, an 8-iron to 6 feet for birdie on the par-3 sixth that built his lead to three shots when Sungjae Im missed a 5-footer for par.

"I just had to judge the distance right," Johnson said. "I hit a good shot and made a really good putt. That gave me confidence I needed for the rest of the day. That was a really big hole."

But it was another 8-iron that Johnson remembers even more fondly.

With a splotch of mud on the right side of his ball in the 10th fairway, he said he aimed right of the bunker toward the azalea bushes expecting the shot to turn to the left, which it did, leaving him a two-putt par. Mud was on the left side of his ball in the 11th fairway, so aim to the left?

"I can't start this in the water," Johnson said. Instead, he made sure it stayed short of the bunker right of the green, and he got that up-and-down for par.

Those were two great shots, both with 5-iron, both with mud on the ball. But what meant the most to him was an 8-iron to the green on the par-3 12th, the hole that has cost so many contenders over the years.

"As you can see on Sunday, a lot of guys mess that hole up," Johnson said. "It was into the wind, which is the hardest to play. I had 150 yards to cover the bunker. So I hit a flighted 8-iron, kept it under the trees. It was on the green. I could breathe a little bit."

Doug Ferguson is a golf writer for The Associated Press.

Spring training could be delayed for Double-A, Class A

NEW YORK (AP) — Spring training could be delayed for Double-A and Class A players if major leaguers are not vaccinated for the novel coronavirus by the time big league practice is scheduled to start in mid-February.

Major League Baseball, which has taken over operation of the minors, gave notice to minor league teams and big league clubs on Monday.

"We are still evaluating many issues that affect both the major league and minor league schedules, including, most importantly, when it is likely that players and staff will be vaccinated," Peter Woodfork, MLB's senior vice president of minor league operations and development, wrote in a letter to big league clubs that was obtained by The Associated Press.

The letter was first reported by Baseball America.

Reported virus issues at Ohio St. raise specter of College Football Playoff title game delay

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

College Football Playoff executive director Bill Hancock said Tuesday the national championship game between Alabama and Ohio State is still a go for Monday night amid a report that the Buckeyes are having COVID-19 issues.

AL.com reported that Ohio State has been in contact with CFP officials about possible player availability problems that could force the game to be delayed. Those discussions were confirmed to The Associated Press by a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity because no one had been authorized to speak publicly about the details.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said in a statement that the Buckeyes continue to follow the same protocols they have all season. "We plan to play January 11," Smith said.

Hancock said there were no changes and the game in Miami Gardens, Florida, between the top-ranked Crimson Tide and the third-ranked Buckeyes was still scheduled for Monday night as planned.

Hancock has previously said Jan. 18 is a potential makeup date if necessary.

The pandemic threatened to shut down major college football altogether in the summer, but a season was played through dozens of postponements and cancellations, and with teams getting through games shorthanded because of the virus.

About 87 percent of the regular-season Bowl Subdivision schedule was played. For Ohio State, though, it has been an especially bumpy road.

The Big Ten initially canceled the fall football season in August, only to reverse course in September. The conference kicked off in late October but left no room in the nine-week schedule for makeup games.

The Buckeyes had three games called off, two for COVID-19 issues with their opponents and one due to their own problems. Ohio State played its final regular-season game and the Big Ten championship game missing more than 20 players. Coach Ryan Day tested positive and was not with the team for its game against Michigan State on Dec. 5.

The Buckeyes made the playoff after playing only six games and with the Big Ten changing the minimum number of games needed to qualify for the championship.

Ohio State's unavailable players list shrunk last week for the Sugar Bowl against Clemson, and the Buckeyes beat the Tigers 49-28.

Alabama made it through its season relatively unscathed by the virus. The Tide had one game postponed because of LSU's COVID-19 issues but it was later made up. Coach Nick Saban tested positive for the virus and was forced to miss Alabama's rivalry game against Auburn.

BLACKHAWKS

From page B1

Mitchell, who turns 22 on Jan. 18, is heading into his first year with the Blackhawks after a standout collegiate career at Denver.

Take two

The absence of Toews and Dach puts more pressure on Dominik Kubalik to duplicate his success from last season, when he topped all NHL rookies with 30 goals. He also had 16 assists in 68 games, making a smooth transition to Chicago after playing in Switzerland.

New look

Chicago brought in some help for its goaltenders by signing Mattias Janmark, Lucas Wallmark and Carl Soderberg – all responsible, two-way forwards – to one-year deals in free agency. Janmark, Wallmark and Soderberg have penalty-killing experience, and the Blackhawks lost a key member of their special teams when Saad was shipped off to the Avalanche.

If Chicago falls out of the playoff race, they also could be flipped at the trade deadline for more long-term assets.

Schedule watch

The realigned Central Division is brutal, making for a tough schedule. The Blackhawks open with two games at Tampa Bay, the defending Stanley Cup champion. Then they visit former coach Joel Quenneville and the Florida Panthers.

Dallas, which lost to Tampa Bay in the Stanley Cup Final, also is part of the Central. Same for Carolina, Columbus and Nashville – all postseason teams in 2020.

RED WINGS

From page B1

one-year contract.

The 33-year-old winger was one of the NHL's top scorers a decade ago, but his career was stunted in part by alcohol issues. He missed more than two months of last season after entering the NHL/NHLPA players assistance program in November of 2019.

Upon his return to practice in February, he shared his story in hopes of inspiring others facing similar challenges, and he later was named the Bill Masterton Trophy winner for perseverance, sportsmanship and dedication to hockey.

New look

Yzerman turned over much of the roster, retooling with free agents up front, on the back end and in net. The additions include Ryan, center Vladislav Namestnikov, defensemen Troy Stecher and Jon Merrill along with goaltender Thomas Greiss.

"The players were very enthusiastic when we talked to them prior to signing with the team," Yzerman said. "That was very encouraging. There will be renewed enthusiasm. A majority of our players are on short-term contracts. They have a lot to play for – a lot of personal motivation."

The Red Wings placed forward Justin Abdelkader on unconditional waivers with three years left on his contract at a salary cap hit of $4.25 million and chose not to re-sign goaltender Jimmy Howard.

Schedule watch

Detroit's first four games are at home, starting with a two-game visit from the Carolina Hurricanes on Jan. 14, to potentially help get off to a desperately needed strong start to begin the sprint of a season.

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The AP Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 3, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Gonzaga (63)	10-0	1599	1
2. Baylor (1)	9-0	1537	2
3. Villanova	8-1	1453	4
4. Texas	8-1	1415	8
5. Iowa	9-2	1298	10
6. Kansas	8-2	1224	3
7. Creighton	8-2	1140	11
8. Wisconsin	9-2	1085	6
9. Tennessee	7-1	1076	7
10. Michigan	9-0	1039	16
11. Houston	8-1	977	5
12. Illinois	8-3	878	15
13. Missouri	7-1	747	12
14. West Virginia	8-3	706	9
15. Rutgers	7-2	703	14
16. Minnesota	10-2	559	21
17. Oregon	8-1	545	21
18. Texas Tech	8-3	445	13
19. Clemson	8-1	411	-
19. Virginia Tech	8-1	411	24
21. Duke	3-2	280	20
22. Virginia	5-2	258	23
23. Saint Louis	7-1	133	-
23. Michigan St.	7-3	133	17
25. Florida St.	5-2	120	18

Others receiving votes: Florida 110, Louisville 103, Ohio St. 96, Northwestern 86, Oklahoma St. 68, Arizona 25, Colorado 19, BYU 18, Drake 17, NC State 16, Oklahoma 15, Arkansas 14, Seton Hall 11, UCLA 6, Xavier 5, San Diego St. 4, UConn 4, LSU 3, Boise St. 3, Indiana 2, Alabama 2, Syracuse 1.

The AP Top 25 Women's Basketball Poll

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 3, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Stanford (27)	9-0	745	1
2. Louisville	7-0	695	2
3. NC State (2)	10-0	680	3
3. UConn (1)	6-0	680	4
5. South Carolina	6-1	647	5
6. Baylor	8-1	590	7
7. Arizona	8-1	535	6
8. Texas A&M	10-0	534	9
9. UCLA	6-2	505	11
10. Kentucky	9-1	497	13
11. Oregon	8-1	453	8
12. Maryland	6-1	392	14
13. Arkansas	10-2	372	10
14. Mississippi St.	6-2	365	12
15. Michigan	7-0	349	16
16. Ohio St.	4-0	256	17
17. Texas	8-1	251	19
18. South Florida	7-1	204	21
19. Indiana	5-2	193	20
20. DePaul	5-3	173	18
21. Gonzaga	8-2	113	23
22. Northwestern	4-2	108	15
23. Michigan St.	8-0	106	25
24. Syracuse	5-1	98	22
25. Missouri St.	4-2	66	24

Others receiving votes: North Carolina 32, South Dakota St. 27, Georgia 25, Iowa 18, Tennessee 10, Rice 9, Alabama 8, Arizona St. 7, Washington St 3, Oregon St. 2, Iowa St. 2.

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Virginia Tech	2	0	1.000	8	1	.889
Louisville	2	0	1.000	7	1	.875
NC State	2	0	1.000	6	1	.857
Syracuse	1	0	1.000	6	1	.857
Virginia	1	0	1.000	5	2	.714
Duke	1	0	1.000	3	2	.600
Clemson	2	1	.667	8	1	.889
Georgia Tech	2	1	.667	6	3	.667
Florida St.	1	1	.500	5	2	.714
Pittsburgh	1	1	.500	5	2	.714
North Carolina	1	2	.333	6	4	.600
Wake Forest	0	1	.000	3	1	.750
Miami	0	3	.000	4	4	.500
Notre Dame	0	3	.000	3	6	.333
Boston College	0	3	.000	2	7	.222

Tuesday's Games
NC State at Clemson
North Carolina at Miami

Wednesday's Games
Pittsburgh at Syracuse, 4:30 p.m.
Florida St. at Syracuse, ppd.
Virginia Tech at Louisville, 6:30 p.m.
Boston College at Duke, 8:30 p.m.
Wake Forest at Virginia, 9 p.m.
Georgia Tech at Notre Dame, ppd.

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Michigan	4	0	1.000	9	0	1.000
Illinois	4	1	.800	8	3	.727
Iowa	3	1	.750	9	2	.818
Wisconsin	3	1	.750	9	2	.818
Minnesota	3	2	.600	10	2	.833
Rutgers	3	2	.600	7	2	.778
Northwestern	3	2	.600	6	3	.667
Indiana	2	2	.500	7	4	.636
Ohio St.	2	3	.400	8	3	.727
Purdue	2	3	.400	7	5	.583
Michigan St.	1	3	.250	7	3	.700
Maryland	1	4	.200	6	5	.545
Penn St.	0	3	.000	3	4	.429
Nebraska	0	4	.000	4	7	.364

Monday's Games
Indiana 63, Maryland 55

Tuesday's Games
Rutgers at Michigan St.
Nebraska at Purdue, ppd.

Wednesday's Games
Penn St. at Ohio St., 6:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Michigan, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Iowa at Maryland, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Wisconsin, 7 p.m.
Illinois at Northwestern, 9 p.m.

HORIZON LEAGUE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Cleveland St.	6	0	1.000	6	3	.667
Ill.-Chicago	2	0	1.000	5	2	.714
Wright St.	5	1	.833	7	2	.778
N. Kentucky	3	1	.750	5	4	.556
Milwaukee	2	1	.667	3	2	.600
Robert Morris	2	1	.667	3	3	.500
Oakland	3	3	.500	3	10	.231
Youngstown St.	2	4	.333	5	4	.556
Fort Wayne	1	5	.167	2	5	.286
Green Bay	1	5	.167	1	9	.100
IUPUI	0	2	.000	1	2	.333
Detroit	0	4	.000	1	7	.125

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Bowling Green	3	0	1.000	7	2	.778
Toledo	3	0	1.000	8	3	.727
Akron	2	0	1.000	4	1	.800
Ball St.	2	1	.667	4	4	.500
Cent. Michigan	1	1	.500	5	4	.556
Buffalo	1	1	.500	3	3	.500
Ohio	1	2	.333	5	4	.556
W. Michigan	1	2	.333	2	6	.250
Kent St.	0	1	.000	3	2	.600
Miami (Ohio)	0	1	.000	3	3	.500
E. Michigan	0	2	.000	2	3	.400
N. Illinois	0	3	.000	1	7	.125

Tuesday's Games
Toledo at Kent St.
Cent. Michigan at Bowling Green
N. Illinois at Ohio
Bowling Green at Miami (Ohio), ppd.
W. Michigan at Ball St., ppd.
E. Michigan at Buffalo, ppd.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Saturday, Jan 2
GATOR BOWL
Jacksonville, Fla.
Kentucky 23, No. 24 NC State 21
OUTBACK BOWL
Tampa, Fla.
Mississippi 26, No. 7 Indiana 20
FIESTA BOWL
Glendale, Ariz.
No. 12 Iowa State 34, No. 25 Oregon 17
ORANGE BOWL
Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 5 Texas A&M 41, No. 14 UNC 27

Monday, Jan. 11
COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 3 Ohio St., 8 p.m. (ESPN)

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Buffalo	13	3	0	.813	501	375
Miami	10	6	0	.625	404	338
New England	7	9	0	.438	326	353
N.Y. Jets	2	14	0	.125	243	457
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
x-Indianapolis	11	5	0	.688	451	362
yx-Tennessee	11	5	0	.688	491	439
Houston	4	12	0	.250	384	464
Jacksonville	1	15	0	.063	306	492
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
yx-Pittsburgh	12	4	0	.750	416	312
x-Baltimore	11	5	0	.688	468	303
x-Cleveland	11	5	0	.688	408	419
Cincinnati	4	11	1	.281	311	424
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
zyx-Kansas City	14	2	0	.875	473	362
Las Vegas	8	8	0	.500	434	478
L.A. Chargers	7	9	0	.438	384	426
Denver	5	11	0	.313	323	446

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Washington	7	9	0	.438	335	329
Dallas	6	10	0	.375	395	473
N.Y. Giants	6	10	0	.375	280	357
Philadelphia	4	11	1	.281	334	418
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
yx-New Orleans	12	4	0	.750	482	337
x-Tampa Bay	11	5	0	.688	492	355
Carolina	5	11	0	.313	350	402
Atlanta	4	12	0	.250	396	414
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
zyx-Green Bay	13	3	0	.813	509	369
x-Chicago	8	8	0	.500	372	370
Minnesota	7	9	0	.438	430	475
Detroit	5	11	0	.313	377	519
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
yx-Seattle	12	4	0	.750	459	371
x-L.A. Rams	10	6	0	.625	372	296
Arizona	8	8	0	.500	410	367
San Francisco	6	10	0	.375	376	390

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched first round bye
-clinched home-field advantage

Sunday's Games
Baltimore 38, Cincinnati 3
Buffalo 56, Miami 26
Cleveland 24, Pittsburgh 22
Minnesota 37, Detroit 35
N.Y. Giants 23, Dallas 19
New England 28, N.Y. Jets 14
Tampa Bay 44, Atlanta 27
Green Bay 35, Chicago 16
Indianapolis 28, Jacksonville 14
L.A. Chargers 38, Kansas City 21
L.A. Rams 18, Arizona 7
Las Vegas 32, Denver 31
New Orleans 33, Carolina 7
Seattle 26, San Francisco 23
Tennessee 41, Houston 38
Washington 20, Philadelphia 14

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS
Saturday, Jan. 9
Indianapolis at Buffalo, 1:05 p.m.
Los Angeles Rams at Seattle, 4:40 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Washington, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 10
Baltimore at Tennessee, 1:05 p.m.
Chicago at New Orleans, 4:40 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 8:15 p.m.

NBA

Monday's Games
Orlando 103, Cleveland 83
Philadelphia 118, Charlotte 101
Miami 118, Oklahoma City 90
New York 113, Atlanta 108
Boston 126, Toronto 114
Milwaukee 125, Detroit 115
Dallas 113, Houston 100
Indiana 118, New Orleans 116, OT
Golden State 137, Sacramento 106

Tuesday's Games
Brooklyn 130, Utah 96
L.A. Lakers 94, Memphis 92
Minnesota at Denver
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers
Chicago at Portland

Wednesday's Games
Cleveland at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Houston at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Boston at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 10 p.m.

PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING JAN. 6

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	The Price Is Right at Night (N) CC		Young Sheldon	Neighbor-hood	S.W.A.T. "Good Cop" CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Holly-wood	Chicago Med (N) CC (DVS)		Chicago Fire "Smash Therapy" (N)		Chicago P.D. "Tender Age" (N)	
FOX 17 222 28 32	Modern Family	The Masked Dancer (N) CC (DVS)		:02 Name That Tune "Episode 1"		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Outdoor Elements	Nature Extraordinary abilities of squirrels.		NOVA Why some predictions fail.		When Disaster Strikes CC	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Riverdale CC		Nancy Drew "The Girl in the Locket"		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Dateline CC		Dateline "The Fugitive Millionaire"		Dateline "The Watcher" CC	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	Riverdale CC		Nancy Drew "The Girl in the Locket"		The Drew Barrymore Show (N) CC	
WHME 46	:00 Heart-land	Heartland "Thicker Than Water" CC		Highway to Heaven "The Brightest Star"		Nightly News	
WGN 9	News	black-ish "Hope"	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam (N)	Court Cam (N)	Wild	Wild
AMC	O Brother	★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94) Tim Robbins. An innocent man goes to a Maine penitentiary for life in 1947. CC					
Animal	North-	North Woods Law: Uncuffed (N)				North Woods Law	
BET	Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness			Payne	As. Living	Payne	As. Living
Big Ten	College Basketball	College Basketball Minnesota at Michigan.					B1G Live
Bravo	House-wives/OC	Housewives/OC		Housewives/OC		Real Housewives of Salt Lake City	
Cartoon	Teen	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	Rick	Rick
Cinemax	5:57 Rounders	★ This Means War ('12, Action) Reese Witherspoon. CC			:40 ★★★ Punch-Drunk Love ('02) Adam Sandler. CC		
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	S. Smith	Shark Tank		Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk
Discovery	Undercov-er Bil	Undercover Billionaire "Three Million Dollar Bet" ((SP)) Business titans face a challenge. (N) CC					
Disney	Raven	Liv-Mad.	Liv-Mad.	Raven	Raven	Big City	Bunk'd
DIY	Holmes	Holmes Inspection		Holmes Inspection		Holmes Inspection	
E!	★ What Happens in Vegas ('08)			★★★ Knocked Up ('07) Seth Rogen.			
ESPN	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Miami Heat. (N)					NBA Basketball	
ESPN2	College Basketball Teams TBA.			College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)			
ESPNC	Football	College Football				Classic-Boxing	
Food	Grocery	Guy's Games		Guy's Games		Kitchen Crash CC	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Pistons	NBA Basketball Detroit Pistons at Milwaukee Bucks.					Pistons
Freefrm	:00 ★★★ The Breakfast Club ('85) Emilio Estevez. CC			★★★ 13 Going on 30 ('04) Jennifer Garner, Mark Ruffalo, Judy Greer. CC			
FX	Spi-der-Man 2	★★★ Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle ('17, Adventure) Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Jack Black. CC					Jumanji: Welcome
Golf	PGA	PGA Tour Golf Sentry Tournament of Champions, Final Round.					
Hallmark	Amazing Winter Ro	A Royal Winter ('17, Drama) Merritt Patter-son, Jack Donnelly. CC				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	6:10 Replicas	30 Coins "Ouija" (Subti-tled-English)		:05 ★★ Battleship ('12) Taylor Kitsch, Alexan-der Skarsgard, Rihanna. CC			
History	Forged	Forged in Fire		Forged in Fire (N)		:03 Forged in Fire	
HGTV	Hunters	House	House	Frozen	Frozen	Hunt Intl	Hunters
Learning	My 600-	My 600-Lb. Life "Thederick's Story" (N)				1000-Lb. Sisters	
Lifetime	Mar-ried-Sight	Married at First Sight "Kickoff Special" A first look at the five couples. (N) CC					
MSNBC	ReidOut	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	The Challenge (N) CC			Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Skiing	FIS Freestyle		Short List	Bulls	NBA Basketball	
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	★★ Ice Age: The Meltdown			Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Trafficked	Trafficked-van Zeller		Trafficked-van Zeller		Narco Wars (N)	
Oxygen	:00 Snapped	Snapped (N) CC		Snapped A young woman falls ill. CC		Dateline: Secrets Uncovered CC	
Parmt	:00 ★ Grown Ups 2 ('13)			★★★ Wedding Crashers ('05) CC			
Showtime	Termina-tor 2	★★★ Batman ('89, Action) Jack Nicholson, Michael Keaton. CC				:05 ★★ Batman Returns ('92)	
Starz	:13 ★★★ Monsters University ('13, Children's) CC			★★ Bring It On ('00) Kirsten Dunst, Eliza Dushku. CC			★★ Total Recall
STZENC	★★ The Notebook	American Gods "The Ways of the Dead"		8:59 American Gods "Donar The Great"		9:55 ★★ Blade: Trinity ('04)	
SyFy	6:30 ★★★ The Goonies ('85) Sean Astin, Josh Brolin.			★★ Mortal Kombat ('95, Action) Robin Shou, Linden Ashby.			
TBS	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal
TCM	A Yank at Eton ('42)	★★ Death on the Nile ('78) Peter Ustinov. Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot solves shipboard murder.					Evil Under Sun
TMC	Armaged-don ('98)	★ Countdown ('19) Elizabeth Lail, Jordan Calloway. CC			★★ Forsaken ('15, Western) Kiefer Sutherland. CC		
TNT	The Meg	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) CC				Central Intelligence	
Travel	Mysteries	Mysteries of the Unknown CC				True Paranormal	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Everybody Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	:00 NCIS	WWE NXT (N) (L) CC				Transformers: Re-venge of the Fallen	
VH1	:00 ★★★ Creed ('15) Michael B. Jordan. CC					The Karate Kid	
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Fasted cardio is an attempt to burn stored fat

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

DEAR DOCTOR: My gym has been closed for months, so I've been doing online workouts during the pandemic. A guy in our session keeps talking about something called "fasted cardio," and how it's helping him lose fat and gain muscle. What is it? Does it really work?

DEAR READER: The term fasted cardio refers to doing a heart-pumping workout after not eating for a stretch of time long enough to be considered a fast. Often, it's overnight, which means anyone who has gone for a run or taken a dance class before grabbing breakfast can say they've done fasted cardio.

The logic behind the practice lies in the way that our bodies use stored energy. The body's top choice when it needs energy is glycogen, a form of sugar that is stored in the muscles and the liver. It's made up of multiple linked glucose molecules, the simple sugars in our blood that are derived from digestion. The body can burn either sugar or fat for energy, but using sugar is both faster and easier, so it uses that first. However, glycogen stores are finite, which is where fasted cardio comes in. The idea is that by the time you've gone 10 or 12 or more hours without eating, your body will have worked its way through a good portion of its existing glycogen stockpile. And, since those glycogen stores haven't yet been replenished with a meal, the body will then be forced to turn to Plan B during your workout, which is to also burn stored fat.

The catch is that, despite the appealing and simple logic, the research into fasted cardio is scant, and the results have been mixed. A study from 2017, which analyzed research into the practice, didn't find the promised changes to body composition. Another drawback is that, when in a fasted state, the body has another energy option besides fat to make up for the lack of glycogen. We're talking about protein, with the source being your own muscle tissue. Losing muscle mass is the opposite of what you're trying to achieve. And, while the big picture of how the body uses energy appears straightforward, it's actually quite complex. At any given moment, processes such as hormone secretion, enzyme activity and gene activation – to name just a few – play a decisive role in fat metabolism. So does the type and duration of the exercise you're engaging in.

All of which leads us back to our familiar refrain when it comes to diet and exercise. That is, moderation and consistency. Eat a healthy diet, steer clear of junk food and simple carbs, do a mix of aerobic exercise and strength training, and get enough sleep. These will serve you better than trying to game the system with a tricky diet or exercise routine.

For those of you who decide to give fasted cardio a try, be sure that you're still drinking plenty of water. And don't forget to eat a balanced breakfast after you've finished working out.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

How can introverts happily socialize with non-listeners?

Carolyn Hax

DEAR CAROLYN: Over the years, I have noticed few people in my social circle listen. They talk over each other, interrupt, even look away seconds after asking a question. And they do this to everyone, not just me. It's maddening.

I don't deserve special attention, but if someone asks a question I expect a few seconds to answer. These same non-listeners, by contrast, will happily monologue for several minutes about their recent knee surgery, their new golf clubs or the staggering talent their daughter has for riding horses.

My wife is an enthusiastic extrovert, and though she sees the bad listeners around us, she rarely gets disillusioned, telling me my expectations are too high and, "It's just socializing. Go with it."

She also labels me an introvert, and while this is likely true, I also thoroughly enjoy a thoughtful conversation, one where people offer interesting ideas and listen as often as they talk.

These conversations are increasingly rare. I've chalked it up to the self-absorption that creeps into people as they age, coupled with modern content overload that has mutilated our attention spans. But it's still deeply unpleasant.

I've tried coping mechanisms: I abandon expectations. I listen carefully – more than I speak. I limit the stories I tell and answer questions concisely. When all else fails, I decline the invitation and settle down with a good book.

Am I having a midlife crisis? Have I become a misanthrope? Do I need new friends? I suspect I come across as rigid and judgmental. But I enjoy good company and long for the days when people delighted in listening to a story as much as telling five.

Please show me the way to socialize happily with bad listeners. – Lost in the Din

DEAR LOST IN THE DIN: I was going to recommend misanthropy and a book, but you beat me to it.

I doubt there's any "way" to make these bad listeners any more interesting or satisfying company. You are who you are, for one thing. And, you've tried most of the coping tactics available to you.

The only one I'd add is to reframe your reasons for seeing these people. Rather than "enjoy myself," try something a little longer-range, like, "to keep my marriage happy," or, "to increase the likelihood of casseroles during rough patches," or, "to keep me from talking to squirrels." Eyes-on-the-horizon-range. (Plus books.)

But you do have options under the "new friends" banner. Just-social friends, over time, can grow numb to each other's day-to-day. You can like each other immensely and care about each other and still not have much new earth left to turn over.

So that points to friends through common interests – ideally where you work collectively toward a tangible outcome, since that often forces verbal *exchanges*, which in turn discourage the dread sequential monologuing of "catching up."

What might this mythic conversation-juicing shared outcome be? Not for me to say. With a range wide enough to reach from causes to community theater to joining or coaching teams to chairing local events to cultivating obscure intellectual interests, there's no place for outsiders in this decision.

And you'll face pandemic limitations, and probably more new bores than gems. But to my ear, you sound ready to *do* something interesting – whether anyone lets you tell them about it or not.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

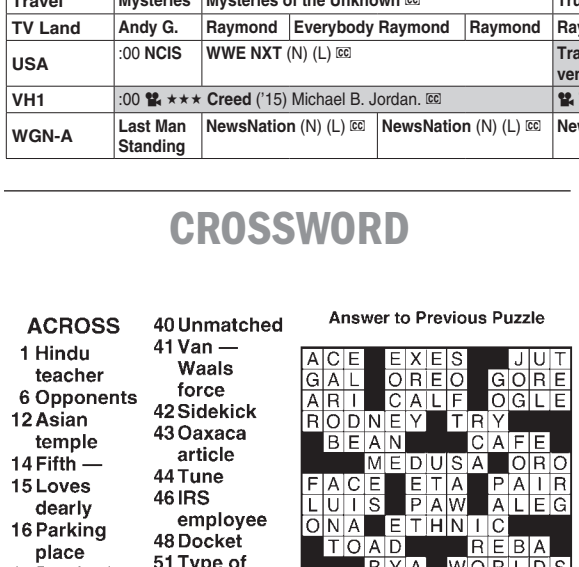
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Hindu teacher
6 Opponents
12 Asian temple
14 Fifth —
15 Loves dearly
16 Parking place
17 Perched
18 Cease
19 Strong soap
21 Eliminate
23 Bodybuild-er's pride
26 Jellyfish habitat
27 Web suffix
28 Eavesdrop
30 "Star Wars" rogue
31 Psychic power
32 Ring-shaped island
33 Got nosy
35 Std.
37 Step on it
38 Tractor pioneer
39 Spike or Bruce
40 Unmatched
41 Van — Waals force
42 Sidekick
43 Oaxaca article
44 Tune
46 IRS employee
48 Docket
51 Type of sale (hyph.)
55 Affection-ately
56 Ultimatum (2 wds.)
57 Mixes the salad
58 Not censored

DOWN
1 Health resort
2 Handful of cotton
3 In days gone by
4 Code inventor
5 Glimmer-ing
6 Came unglued
7 Tennis ace — Lendl
8 Springlike
9 RN's group
10 Clumsy person
11 Take a gander at
13 Lone Star nine
19 Chartered
20 New York baseball player
22 Reddish antelope
24 Weep noisily
25 Not liquids or gases
26 Trawler's haul
27 Surrender territory
28 Guru
29 Answered a judge
34 Short trips
36 Zipper alternative
42 Implores
43 Weighed down
45 Slothful
47 Andes nation
48 Toward the stern
49 Sticky stuff
50 Space widths
52 "Water-falls" group
53 Tempe inst.
54 Under-stand

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	C	E	■	E	X	E	S	■	■	J	U	T
G	A	L	■	O	R	E	O	■	G	O	R	E
A	R	I	■	C	A	L	F	■	O	G	L	E
R	O	D	N	E	Y	■	T	R	Y	■	■	■
■	B	E	A	N	■	■	C	A	F	E	■	■
■	■	■	M	E	D	U	S	A	■	O	R	O
F	A	C	E	■	E	T	A	■	P	A	I	R
L	U	I	S	■	P	A	W	■	A	L	E	G
O	N	A	■	E	T	H	N	I	C	■	■	■
■	T	O	A	D	■	■	■	R	E	B	A	■
■	■	■	B	Y	A	■	W	O	R	L	D	S
Y	E	L	L	■	D	A	R	N	■	A	I	M
I	S	A	Y	■	O	G	E	E	■	N	E	O
N	A	B	■	■	S	E	N	D	■	D	U	G



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JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TRYID

TOMOT

ZENEES

LIRPAL

The Gopher's game is starting!
It's so small. I may have to have a couple.
I think it's the perfect size.
WHY CAN A SMALL PEPS! SOUND LIKE A U.S. STATE? BECAUSE IT'S A ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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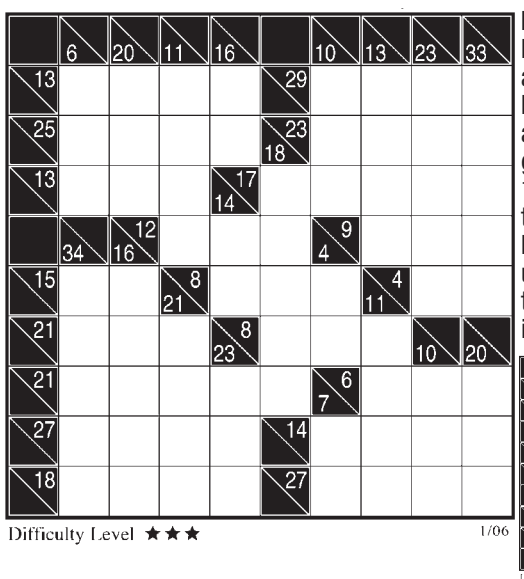
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " ○○○○ - ○○○○ "

(Answers tomorrow)

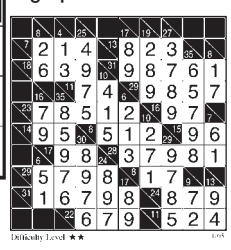
Yesterday's Jumbles: PILOT POKER MAGNET FONDUE
Answer: The android was nervous about a positronic brain replacement but would — KEEP AN OPEN MIND

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/06

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

Daniel Kahneman, who won the 2002 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences (shared with Vernon L. Smith), said, "I have always emphasized the willingness to discard."

Bridge defenders use discards to send information to partner. But the declarer is also watching and drawing deductions. Defenders should bear that in mind.

Today's deal is instructive only in a duplicate setting, where overtricks can be so valuable. How should South plan the play in three no-trump after West leads the club nine?

South does not like to open one no-trump with two unstopped suits, but he has no choice. If he opens one diamond, and partner responds one of a major, he has no rebid. When you have a balanced hand with the right count, just open one no-trump and get on with it!

South starts with eight top tricks: three diamonds and five clubs. A ninth trick is readily available from spades, so he takes the first trick in hand and plays a spade to the 10, queen and two. What next?

Should South cross to hand with another club and play a second spade, assuming West has the ace? That is not without risk if East is good enough to have played low smoothly with ace-jack-fifth or -sixth of spades.

At the table, though, when declarer did play a club to hand at trick three, East discarded a spade! That spilled the beans. He wouldn't throw a potential winner. So, South played a second spade and ended with an overtrick. Plus 430 was worth 70.0 percent, but plus 400 would have been only 36.7%.

North 01-06-21
♠ K Q 5
♥ Q J 5
♦ 10 7
♣ Q J 10 6 2

West
♠ A 10
♥ A 4 3
♦ 8 5 4 3
♣ 9 8 7 4

East
♠ J 8 7 4 2
♥ K 10 9 2
♦ J 9 2
♣ 5

South
♠ 9 6 3
♥ 8 7 6
♦ A K Q 6
♣ A K 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♣ 9

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

		6	9	1	5		2	7
					3			9
		9		2	4			
5				7				
6	7	1		5		8	3	2
				6				4
			1	9		3		
7			5					
2	9		8	3	7	1		

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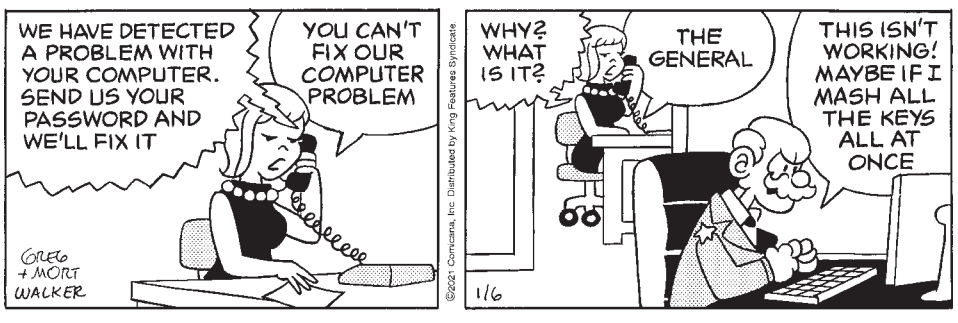
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

3	6	7	9	4	5	1	2	8
2	5	1	8	7	6	4	3	9
4	8	9	1	3	2	7	5	6
5	7	2	6	9	3	8	1	4
1	3	6	5	8	4	2	9	7
8	9	4	2	1	7	3	6	5
6	4	8	3	2	9	5	7	1
7	2	5	4	6	1	9	8	3
9	1	3	7	5	8	6	4	2

BEETLE BAILEY


WE HAVE DETECTED A PROBLEM WITH YOUR COMPUTER. SEND US YOUR PASSWORD AND WE'LL FIX IT
YOU CAN'T FIX OUR COMPUTER PROBLEM
GREG + MORT WALKER
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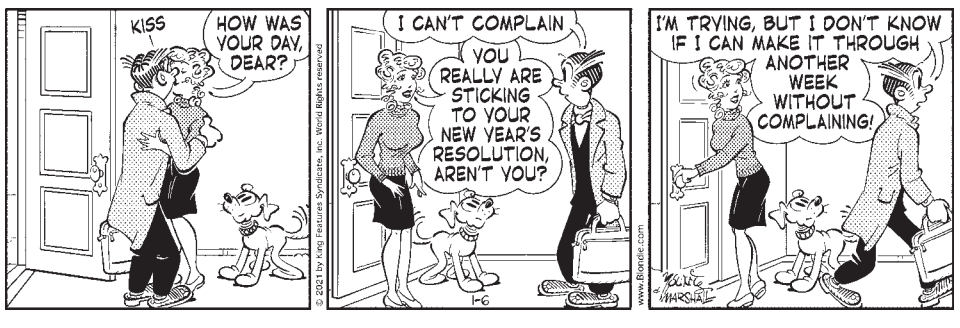
WHY? WHAT IS IT?
THE GENERAL
THIS ISN'T WORKING! MAYBE IF I MASH ALL THE KEYS ALL AT ONCE
1/6

BLONDIE


KISS
HOW WAS YOUR DAY, DEAR?
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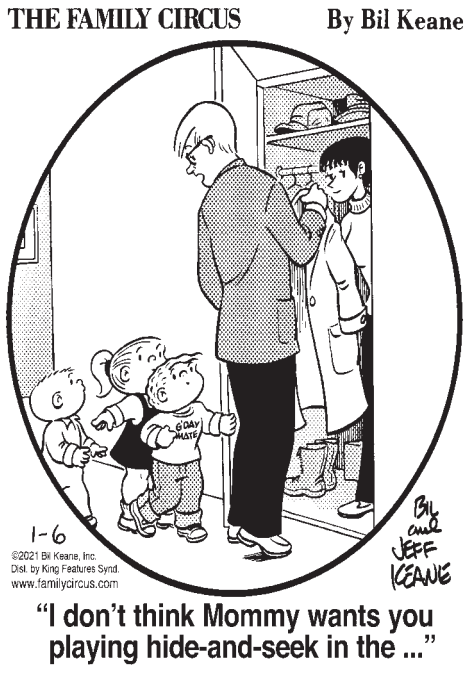
I CAN'T COMPLAIN
YOU REALLY ARE STICKING TO YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION, AREN'T YOU?
1-6
I'M TRYING, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN MAKE IT THROUGH ANOTHER WEEK WITHOUT COMPLAINING!
www.Blondie.com

FAMILY CIRCUS


THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
1-6
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www.familycircus.com
BIL and JEFF KEANE
"I don't think Mommy wants you playing hide-and-seek in the ..."

DENNIS THE MENACE

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1-6
"HE THINKS HE SHOULD GET AN ALLOWANCE FOR BEING GOOD."
"AT HIS AGE, I WAS GOOD FOR NOTHING... LET ME REPHRASE THAT!"

HI & LOIS

BABY BLUES

SO I'M THE QUEEN OF LAUNDRY?
THAT'S RIGHT, YOUR MAJESTY.
I DON'T WANT TO BE QUEEN OF THAT! I WANT SOMETHING FUN!
SEXY! COOL!
I WANT TO BE EMPEROR OF RELAXATION!
SORRY. THAT WENT TO A GUY.
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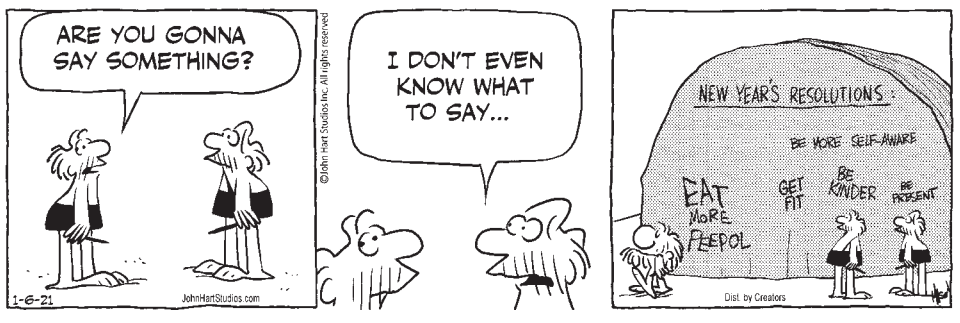
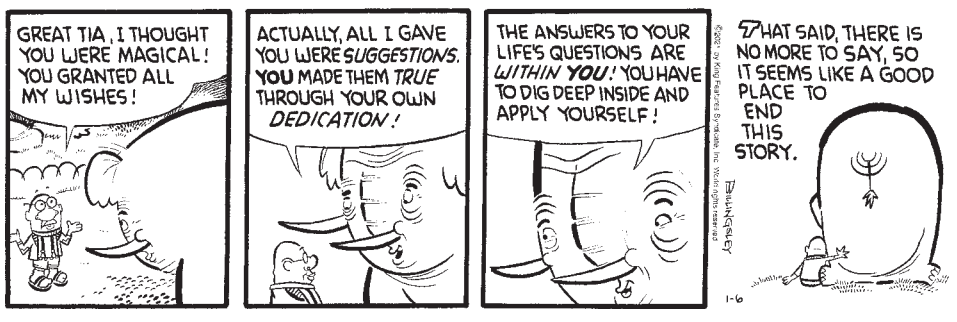
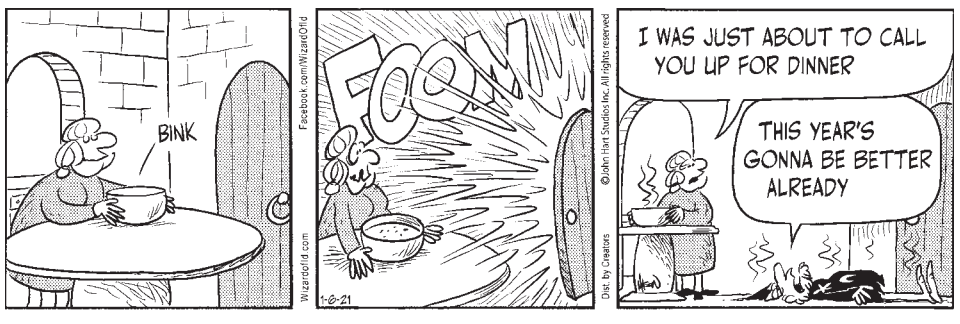
BC



CURTIS


GREAT TIA, I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAGICAL! YOU GRANTED ALL MY WISHES!
ACTUALLY, ALL I GAVE YOU WERE SUGGESTIONS. YOU MADE THEM TRUE THROUGH YOUR OWN DEDICATION!
THE ANSWERS TO YOUR LIFE'S QUESTIONS ARE WITHIN YOU! YOU HAVE TO DIG DEEP INSIDE AND APPLY YOURSELF!
THAT SAID, THERE IS NO MORE TO SAY, SO IT SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO END THIS STORY.
1-6

WIZARD OF ID



ZITS

YOU KNOW WHAT TIKTOK IS, RIGHT?
OF COURSE.
WELL, JEREMY SECRETLY FILMED ME DANCING AND PUT IT ON THERE!
I SAW.
PEOPLE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THE "AWKWARD DAD DANCE."
HOW IS THAT AWKWARD??
zitscomics.com
SCOTT ADAMS & BORGMAN
1-6
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DILBERT

I SAW ON THE NEWS THAT THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO ROUND UP ALL BALD PEOPLE AND PUT THEM IN CAMPS.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
YOU SHOULD BE EMBARRASSED FOR BELIEVING A STORY SO OBVIOUSLY FALSE.
© 2021 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel
1-6-21
THEY SAID YOU'D SAY THAT.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

I'M TELLING YOU FOR THE LAST TIME, GO AWAY!
1-6
GOOD! I KNEW YOU WOULD WEAKEN EVENTUALLY!
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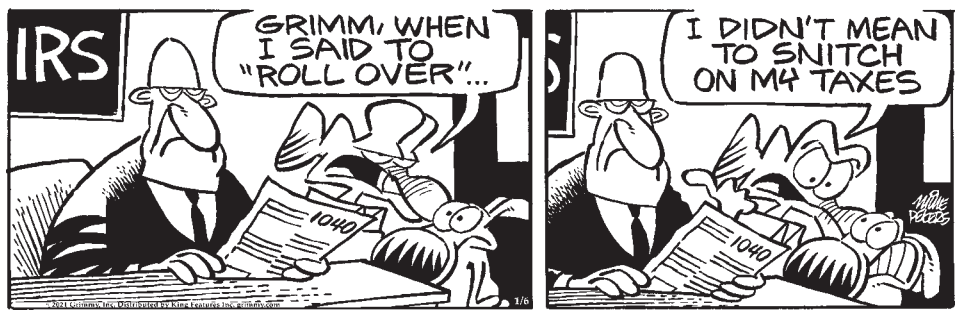
BROOME

GARFIELD

AROOOOOOO!
JIM DAVIS 1-6
© 2021 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved
AROOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!
WE'LL RETURN TO "FULL MOON THEATER"
HOW CAN YOU WATCH THIS JUNK?!
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



FORT KNOX

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT ASKING ME FOR MONEY.
I WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT.
GOOD! MONEY HAS A WAY OF DIVIDING PEOPLE.
I AGREE! MIND IF I BORROW SOMETHING ELSE?
SURE... WHAT?
1/06
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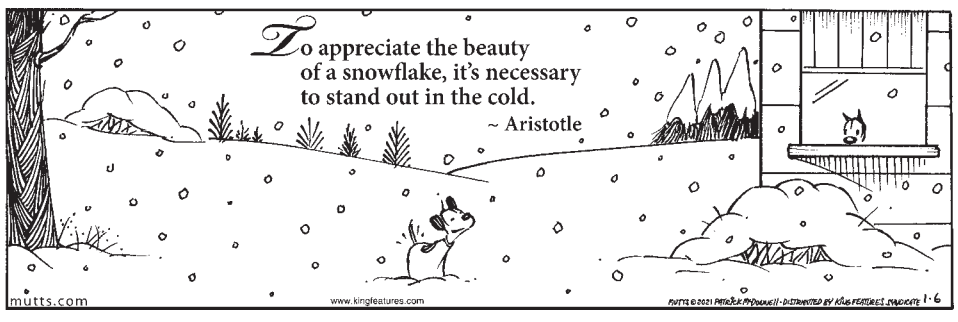
DIAMONDS AND PRECIOUS METALS.

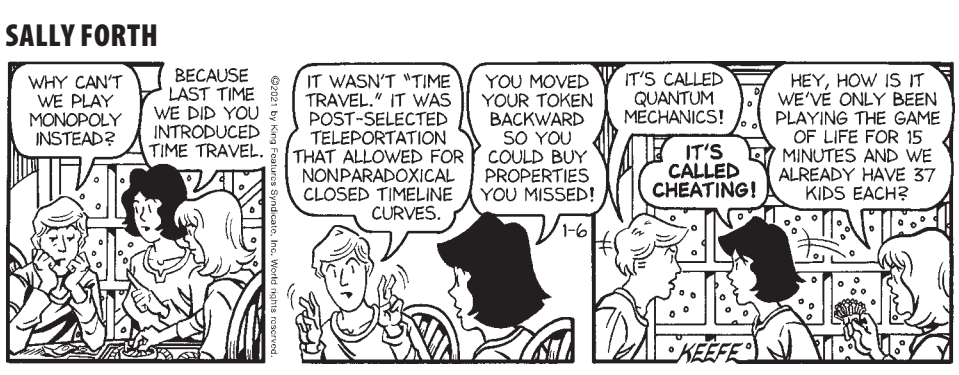
MUTTS


To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it's necessary to stand out in the cold.
~ Aristotle
mutts.com
www.kingfeatures.com
1-6

PICKLES

ANYTHING FOR ME IN THE MAIL?
HERE YOU GO. IT'S A REMINDER THAT IT'S TIME TO HAVE YOUR HEAD EXAMINED.
LET ME SEE THAT!
1-6-21
IT SAYS IT'S TIME TO HAVE MY EYES EXAMINED!
THEY'RE IN YOUR HEAD, AREN'T THEY?

SALLY FORTH


WHY CAN'T WE PLAY MONOPOLY INSTEAD?
BECAUSE LAST TIME WE DID YOU INTRODUCED TIME TRAVEL.
IT WASN'T "TIME TRAVEL." IT WAS POST-SELECTED TELEPORTATION THAT ALLOWED FOR NONPARADOXICAL CLOSED TIMELINE CURVES.
YOU MOVED YOUR TOKEN BACKWARD SO YOU COULD BUY PROPERTIES YOU MISSED!
1-6
IT'S CALLED QUANTUM MECHANICS!
IT'S CALLED CHEATING!
HEY, HOW IS IT WE'VE ONLY BEEN PLAYING THE GAME OF LIFE FOR 15 MINUTES AND WE ALREADY HAVE 37 KIDS EACH?
KEEFE
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Pandemic haunts new year as virus growth outpaces vaccines

By DANICA KIRKA and ANGELA CHARLTON
Associated Press

LONDON — Despite growing vaccine access, January is looking grim around the globe as the coronavirus resurges and reshapes itself from Britain to Japan to California, filling hospitals and threatening livelihoods anew as governments lock down businesses and race to find solutions.

England headed back into lockdown. Mexico City's hospitals hold more virus patients than ever. Germany reported one of its highest daily death tolls to date Tuesday. South Africa and Brazil are struggling to find space for the dead. Even pandemic success story Thailand is fighting an unexpected wave of infections.

And as doctors face or brace for rising numbers of COVID-19 patients after end-of-year holiday gatherings, more and more countries are reporting cases of a new, more contagious variant that has already swept across Britain.

January is going to be "a tough one," said Dr. Margaret Harris, a spokeswoman for the World Health Organization. "This idea that seems to be 'Ah, we're all sick of it. We want to look at something else. Oh, this doesn't apply to me' ... that's got to go away. It really is all hands on deck."

While Britain rolled out a second vaccine this week and some U.S. states are starting to give the second round of shots, access to inoculations globally is sharply unequal. The supply isn't remotely close to meeting the epic demand needed to vanquish a foe that has already killed over 1.85 million people.

"We are in a race to prevent infections, bring cases down, protect health systems and save lives while rolling out two highly effective and safe vaccines to high-risk populations," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "This is not easy. These are the hard miles."

England is facing a third national lockdown that will last at least six weeks, as authorities struggle to stem a surge in COVID-19 infections and relieve hospitals, where some patients are left waiting in ambulances in a parking lot for access to overcrowded wards.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's tough new stay-at-home order for England took effect at midnight. It will shut schools, restaurants and all nonessential stores and won't be reviewed until at least mid-February. Scottish leader Nicola Sturgeon imposed a lockdown that began Tuesday.

The two leaders said the restrictions are needed to protect the National Health Service amid the emergence of the new variant that has sent daily infections, hospitalizations and deaths soaring.

The NHS "is going through probably the toughest time in living memory," said Siva Anandaciva, chief analyst of the King's Fund think tank.

Elsewhere in Europe, Italy and Germany extended their Christmastime lockdowns, Spain is restricting travel, and Denmark lowered the number of people who can gather in public from 10 to five. France is likely to announce tougher measures Thursday, and Ukraine is closing schools and restaurants starting Friday.

Matt Dunham / AP

A person walks with an umbrella in light rain in the City of London financial district in London, on Tuesday, on the first morning of England entering a third national lockdown since the coronavirus outbreak began. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday night announced a tough new stay-at-home order, as authorities struggle to stem a surge in COVID-19 infections that threatens to overwhelm hospitals around the U.K.

In Latin America, some warn the worst is yet to come.

"The boost we are experiencing here in Brazil is much more serious than what was happening months ago," said Domingos Alves, an adjunct professor at the University of Sao Paulo.

Brazil's number of patients in intensive care reached its highest level since August, just as the nation reopened shops and offices after the end-of-year holidays – and the vast country still hasn't approved or received any vaccines. Some Brazilian hospitals reinstalled refrigerated containers outside to hold the corpses of COVID-19 victims.

Mexico's capital has more virus patients than at any point in the pandemic and is flying in doctors from less hard-hit states. Its beach resorts are readying for more cases after thousands of U.S. and European tourists visited over the holidays.

"Probably in the third week of January, we are going to see the system stressed more, that there will be more ambulatory cases and cases requiring hospitalization," said Dr. Mauricio Rodriguez of Mexico's National Autonomous University. He blamed the rise on fatigue with social distancing, mixed messages from public figures and Mexicans lowering their guard during the holidays.

Zimbabwe reintroduced a curfew, banned public gatherings and indefinitely suspended the opening of schools. In South Africa, which is seeing yet another fast-spreading variant of the virus and is the continent's hardest-hit nation, authorities re-imposed a curfew, banned liquor sales and closed most beaches.

South Africa's undertakers are struggling to cope with the rise in deaths, National Funeral Practitioners Association of SA President Muzi Hlengwa told state broadcaster SABC.

"It is something that you have never seen before. ... We have run out of coffins, we have run out of space at the mortuary," he said. "We normally have cremations during the day, but now we have cremations even at night."

The pandemic is even reaching countries that seemed to have the virus under control.

Thailand is facing a surge that has infected thousands in the past few weeks, blamed on complacency and poor planning. The government is locking down large parts of the country, including the capital, Bangkok, and considering tougher measures.

Japan is getting ready to declare a state of emergency this week, beefing up border controls and speeding up vaccine approval after a surge of cases around New Year's Eve.

And holiday worries aren't over now that 2021 has arrived.

Pope Francis abandoned an annual ritual of baptizing babies in the Sistine Chapel tied to Wednesday's Epiphany holiday. Orthodox Christian countries like Russia and Greece could face more infections after they celebrate Christmas on Thursday. And China is closing schools early ahead of next month's Lunar New Year holiday, telling migrant workers not to go home and tourists to avoid Beijing.

Vaccinations are getting off to a slow start in many places. In the U.S., where over 350,000 people have died, some states are struggling to secure enough shots and organize vaccinations. The Netherlands has come under heavy criticism for being the last European Union nation to start inoculations, which it will do Wednesday. Australia isn't planning to do so until March. And most poorer countries are even further behind.

The Herald-Palladium

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PETS

ANNOUNCEMENT
Mccoy Brother's Jewelers will resume business when the vaccine arrives and is administered to the public at large.
Hang in there, folks.
Mccoy Brother's will reopen at that time, for the final run, of about one year.

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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

Organize your time and stay on top of your deadlines. Do your best to get along with others. A positive attitude will encourage compromise. Take good care of your health, wealth and relationships. Make love a priority. Stop dreaming and start doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Take a moment to evaluate situations before letting your emotions take charge. Use discretion when discussing matters with a friend, relative or peer. Pay close attention to detail.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Take pride in what you do. You'll gain support if you think for yourself instead of following someone's lead. Do your best to make a difference. Let your intuition guide you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Stick to the people you know and trust. Stay alert and concentrate on your responsibilities. Shared expenses will lead to uncertainty. Don't pay for someone's mistake.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Connect with people who can help you achieve your objective. Refuse to let an emotional situation get blown out of proportion. Anger solves nothing; be prepared to compromise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Expect to face opposition if you voice your opinion. Have your facts straight, and remember to use diplomacy if you want to get things done. Acting in haste will lead to uncertainty.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Physical activity will be challenging if you compete with someone who doesn't play fair. Consider what you are up against and whether it's in your best interest.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Emotions will run high regarding family matters. Put your ego aside and look at the facts. You'll come up with a solution that will appease everyone involved. Physical fitness will ease stress.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Keep your life simple. The less you interact with others, the easier it will be to get things done. Focus on home improvements. Romance is on the rise. Look into starting a side business.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Refuse to let anyone talk you into something risky or that might put you in debt. Spend more time taking care of your financial, physical and emotional well-being. Don't fold under pressure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Charm will help deflect a demanding someone. Offer solutions in place of bailing someone out physically or financially. Pay more attention to what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A change of heart will cause short-term uncertainty. Take a step back, and you will discover what you can do to turn around a bothersome situation. Honesty and facts matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Check in with someone you have collaborated with successfully, and you will be offered options that pique your interest. Before you jump in, consider the possible consequences.

hp FOOD & HEALTH

A slower pace of life at Verdant Hollow Farms

"It's hard work, but it's good work," Molly Muchow says about co-managing Verdant Hollow Farms in Buchanan with her husband, Brett.

Jane Ammeson

It's also a big lifestyle change for the couple, who, until a few years ago, were living in Chicago with their three children. Molly was a personal chef, and Brett was a teacher.

They liked the vision owner Susan Flynn had after she purchased the land in 2016: create a certified organic and animal welfare approved by A Greener World farm for producing grass-fed lambs, goat's milk, pasture-raised pigs, vegetables and eggs.

The AGW designation is the only label that guarantees animals are raised entirely outdoors on pastures or ranges at an independent farm using sustainable, high-welfare farming practices. It's an independent, nonprofit farm certification program.

Obtaining these certifications was a goal for raising animals and also to create a place to host visitors for retreats, education and to carry forth the concept of regenerative practices in raising the best produce possible. It's a type of farming designed to reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity with the end result of reducing carbon output.

It's a beautiful piece of land, with hollows, woods, pastures and an 1860s-era barn repurposed by Stanley Tigerman, an award-winning architect whose work incorporates urban whimsy to rural structures.

"We plan to build six cabins. It will be a place for people for relaxation and to detach from technology, returning to the pace of what farm life was," says Flynn, who has had a home in the area for the last two decades.

"That would be before the 1940s," Brett says, adding that Verdant Hollow is a no-till farm.

I tell him that as an urban dweller, the concept of no-tilling evades me. Brett explains that tilling upsets the ecosystem of the soil. No-tilling also provides protection from soil erosion. To further protect the soil, in the winter they cover crop, using plants to protect and nourish the soil.

"We also don't use any treated wood here," Brett says.

"Our animals are pasteurized year round," Molly says, noting the goats have 7 acres to roam.

As part of their educational outreach, they also invite school groups to visit, showing them the rhythms of what farm life was like long ago.

"The kids really liked the chickens," Flynn says.

They also liked the goats and sheep and the two Colorado mountain dogs – June and Case – who protect them.

"Two of them can take out a mountain lion or cougar, and are always on the alert to protect the other animals," Brett says.

I must have passed some unspoken Colorado mountain dog test, because they're as friendly as can be, letting the goats come up to the fencing so I can pet them.

But while I'm doing so, I come under the watchful eye of a llama, who is also a guardian animal, and seems less disposed to accept me than the dogs. He stares from within what looks like a guard box that allows a wide open view of the animals in the large pen. The latter encloses a large, wooded area where the animals can munch away to their hearts delight.

That also includes the Katahdin hair sheep, prized for the taste of their meat, and heritage hogs, who also are allowed to run free through the woods. What's raised here is sold to local restaurants, and can be purchased by anyone at the farm.

It's all still a work in progress. Besides building guest cabins, they're also laying out new roads, erecting a welcome pavilion and expanding green and hoop houses, ensuring a longer growing season for microgreens, and starting vegetables earlier in the spring as well as the medicinal herbs they grow.

There are solar panels, a system for collecting rainwater, big areas for composting, yurts and meditation platforms. The farm is also part of pilot project for cannabidiol (CBD).

In all, they've come a long way, and there's still much they want to do. But living on the farm yields a sense of satisfaction, of accomplishment and of producing from the land food that is good, healthful and helpful.

Here are a few recipes from Verdant Hollow Farms:

Photos provided

Susan Flynn feeds a goat at Verdant Hollow Farms in Buchanan.

From left, Molly Muchow, Brett Muchow and Susan Flynn stand with some goats at Verdant Hollow Farms.

These colorful carrots were grown at Verdant Hollow Farms.

Icelandic goats roam the property at Verdant Hollow Farms.

Slow Cooker Bone Broth

1 whole pasture-raised chicken (stew or soup bird)
2 whole carrots, skin on, scrubbed and quartered
1 whole onion, skin on, cleaned and cut in half
3 stalks celery, cleaned and quartered
1 whole head garlic, cleaned and cut in half horizontally
1 tablespoon raw apple cider vinegar
Optional additions: Clean veggie scraps, fresh ginger, fresh herbs, dried mushrooms

Place all ingredients in a slow cooker, and cover with cold water.

Set to low, and let simmer for 12 to 24 hours (the longer the better). Strain through a cheese cloth and add salt to taste.

Drink on its own, use as a base for soups, or stir in some cooked rice and winter greens for a quick lunch.

Molly's notes: I always freeze a couple containers to have on hand when someone gets the sniffles or just needs a warm cup of goodness. I keep a baggie in the freezer to collect any carrot peels, veggie scraps, or chicken bones while cooking other meals. Add these scraps to your slow cooker for extra flavor and as a way to reduce kitchen waste.

Carnitas

1 (3- to 4-pound) bone-in or boneless pork shoulder or butt roast
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 tablespoon salt
1 tablespoon ground pepper
2 tablespoons bacon fat, olive oil or avocado oil
1/4 cup fresh lime juice
1/4 cup fresh orange juice
Fresh lime juice and salt, to taste
Cilantro, chopped
Taco toppings: Shredded lettuce or cabbage, queso fresco, salsa, pickled or raw red onions
Warm tortillas

Season your meat with the chili powder, cumin, salt and pepper.

Heat your oil or fat in a large saute pan.

Once it's hot enough to sizzle with a drop of water, add your shoulder roast. Brown on both sides, and transfer to your slow cooker.

Add your lime, orange juice and a 1/2 cup of water. Cook on low for 8 to 10 hours, or until it starts to fall apart from the bone.

Heat an oven to 425 degrees.

While the roast is still hot, shred with two forks, discarding the bone. Spread the shredded meat and a cup of the juices on a large sheet pan.

Sprinkle an additional 2 to 3 teaspoons of salt over the pork, and place in the oven, stirring every five minutes until slightly crispy, but still tender.

Squeeze additional lime juice (to taste) over the shredded pork, and serve with warm tortillas, fresh cilantro and your favorite taco toppings.

Note: The pork roast also can be slow cooked in the oven. Once seared on all sides, place in a deep roasting pan with the juices/water, cover with foil and cook at 325 degrees for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 hours.

Lamb Curry

1/2 medium onion, diced
3 medium carrots, peeled and diced
1/2 head cauliflower, diced
1 tablespoon fresh garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon fresh ginger, chopped
1 tablespoon ground lamb
2 teaspoons salt
3 tablespoons ground curry powder
2 tablespoons coconut oil (can substitute with other oil you have on hand)
1 or 2 handfuls chopped greens (kale, chard or spinach)
Chili flakes (optional)
Cooked rice

Saute the onion, carrot, cauliflower, garlic and ginger over medium heat until soft.

Season the lamb with salt, and add it to the vegetables. Saute the lamb and vegetables until the lamb is browned (5-10 minutes). Add the curry powder, oil and chili flakes (to taste), and continue cooking until it's well incorporated into the lamb and vegetables.

Remove from the heat, and fold in your chopped greens, letting them wilt in the pan.

Serve over rice with a side of warm naan.

Note: This recipe is a great way to use up any veggies you have in your fridge. Feel free to add any other chopped vegetables you have on hand (zucchini, fennel, peppers, etc.).

Jane Ammeson can be contacted via email at janeammeson@gmail.com or by writing to Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

BREAKFASTS AND BANQUETS

Burgers: American Legion Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy, will have a hamburger night from 5-8 p.m. today. Cost is $5 for a burger, fries and salad. Cost is $6.50 for a burger, onion rings and salad. All orders are carryout. Order upon arrival, or call ahead at 426-3542.

Breakfasts and Banquets appears on Wednesdays. The deadline is the preceding Wednesday at noon. Civic groups sponsoring fundraising meals, classes or other food-related events should send information in writing to: Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email focus@TheHP.com.

BLOOD DRIVES

American Red Cross

■ 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Buchanan Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3115 Niles Buchanan Road, Buchanan.

■ Noon-5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Moose Lodge 697, 1025 Wells St., South Haven.

■ 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Jan. 13, Silver Beach Center, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-4:45 p.m. Jan. 15, Holy Family Catholic Church, 500 W. St. Mary's St., Decatur.

■ Noon-5:45 p.m. Jan. 18, Lawton Evangelical Mennonite Church, 425 Nursery St., Lawton.

■ Noon-4:45 p.m. Jan. 21, Bethel Baptist Church, 6701 S. Blue Star Highway, South Haven.

■ Noon-5:45 p.m. Jan. 22, Hartford Bible Church, 65418 Red Arrow Highway, Hartford.

Versiti Blood Center of Michigan

■ Noon-7 p.m. today, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-7 p.m. Jan. 13, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 16, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 17, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 1-7 p.m. Jan. 18, Salem Lutheran Church, fellowship hall, 275 Marvin St., Coloma.

■ Noon-6 p.m. Jan. 19, LifeBridge Church, foyer, 10420 M-140, South Haven.

■ 2-7 p.m. Jan. 19, Eau Claire Seventh-day Adventist Church, fellowship hall, 6562 Naomi Road, Eau Claire.

■ Noon-7 p.m. Jan. 20, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 1-6 p.m. Jan. 21, The Chapel, 4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-5 p.m. Jan. 22, Consortium for Community Development, conference room, 175 W. Main St., Benton Harbor.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 23, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 24, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ Noon-7 p.m. Jan. 27, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

■ 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 28, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi offices, multi-purpose room, 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac.

■ 2-6 p.m. Jan. 28, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, gym, 5791 Sawyer Road, Sawyer.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To find more drives, visit www.redcrossblood.org or donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip.